

THE THIRD EDITION, CORRECTED.

THE
Gentleman's Stable Directory;
OR,
MODERN SYSTEM
OF
FARRIERY.

COMPREHENDING THE
Present entire improved Mode of Practice:

CONTAINING

All the most valuable PRESCRIPTIONS and approved REMEDIES,
accurately proportioned and properly adapted to every known
DISEASE to which the HORSE is incident.

Interspersed with OCCASIONAL REMARKS upon the dangerous
and almost obsolete PRACTICE of GIBSON, BRACKEN, and
OTHERS.

Including DIRECTIONS for FEEDING, BLEEDING, PURGING,
and getting into CONDITION for the CHASE.

INSCRIBED TO

SIR JOHN LADE, BART.

BY WILLIAM TAPLIN, SURGEON.

L O N D O N:

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TO

Sir JOHN LADE, Bart.

THE very distinguished character and eminent situation you support in the *sporting world*, to the great pleasure and admiration of those who surround you in the *field* and accompany you in the *chase*, will, in the opinion of every experienced SPORTSMAN, sufficiently justify the consistency and propriety of inscribing to you this earnest endeavour to rescue from the frequent and *dreadful* effects of STABULARIAN *ignorance*, and EMPIRICAL *confidence*, the future *ease*, *safety*, and *preservation*, of an animal that not only constitutes to every SPORTSMAN one of the noblest blessings in life, but, in the splendour of your *stud*, *stables*, and *equipage*, affords ample display of your TASTE, JUDGMENT, and LIBERALITY. It is a gratification highly flattering, that I have the present opportunity to subscribe myself,

With respect and admiration,

SIR JOHN,

Your most obedient,

And very humble servant,

THE AUTHOR.

Wokingham, Nov. 1, 1787.

ST. JOHN LAFAYETTE

TO HIS HONORABLE FATHER

AND MOTHER

IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

AND IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK

AND IN THE COUNTY OF NEW YORK

AND IN THE CITY OF ALBANY

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P R E F A C E.

IT is a truth generally acknowledged, and universally lamented, that, amidst all the improvements of the present age, none has received so little advantage from the rays of refinement as the Art of Farriery. And, it must be likewise confessed, it is an ill compliment to a country abounding with *sportsmen*, and those remarkable for their extreme liberality, that the intellectual faculties of many distinguished members of the different learned societies should be absorbed in abstruse contemplations and intense lucubrations upon the *antiquity* of a coin, the *proboscis* of an *elephant*, the *genus* of an *exotic*, or the *beautiful variegations* of a *butterfly*; whilst a branch of science and study, involving the health, safety, and preservation, of the most beautiful and esteemed animal this kingdom has to boast, is neglected as derogatory to

the dignity of a man of letters; and, from this mistaken idea of degradation, a subject of so much consequence has been for many years submitted to the arbitrary dictation of the most illiterate part of the community, without a single effort of weight or influence to abolish the ancient and almost obsolete mode of practice, or a single attempt made, from *proper authority*, to introduce the modern improvements and discoveries in every branch of medicine. It is most certain there is no one period of history where the horse has been ranked so high in general estimation, or rendered of such intrinsic worth, by a display of his various powers, as in the present age of experiment and refinement.

To this cause may undoubtedly be attributed the very great attention paid for some years past to the breed of the distinct and separate classes for the turf, field, road, or draught; and as their value has, in a very short space of time, absolutely doubled their former worth, surely we ought to be proportionally anxious for their preservation, whether for *sport*, *convenience*, or *emolument*. The almost incredible number of this truly valuable part of the creation,

tion, that annually fall victims to the invincible confidence of those rustic sons of VULCAN, self-denominated *farriers*, (with the thunder of whose ignorance almost every village resounds), has for years seemed to implore the assistance of some intelligent member of society to come forward; and, by blending the administration of medicines with a practical knowledge of their *properties* and *effects*, rescue the poor suffering animals from the constant, invariable, and unrelenting, depredations of illiterate *practitioners* and experimental *persecutors*.

Well aware of the arduous task of attempting to eradicate vulgar and habitual prejudices in favour of ancient practice, or the improbability of reconciling attachments of long standing to the rational system of modern composition; and the little chance of exploding entirely the heterogeneous and inconsistent *farrago* so long in use; universal satisfaction is not to be expected, or approbation obtained. But when a clear, open, and candid comparison is drawn by the more enlightened, between the accumulation of contrarieties in the laboured prescriptions "of GIBSON and BRACKEN," with

the indigested observations of the more intelligent, though less prolix and digressive, "BARTLET," the least doubt is not entertained but every degree of favour will be shewn to a system of practice founded on *reason*, supported by *experience*, and justified by a general knowledge of *medicines*, their *principles*, *properties*, *preparations* and *effects*.

To dispel the gloom of ignorance from the brow of obstinacy would be a task of HERCULEAN labour; I therefore wave every idea of animadversion upon the intuitive knowledge of those, who, wrapt up in the warm and happy consolation of their own wisdom, never suffer their *solid judgments* to be warped by the intrusion of new opinions; and proceed to make the necessary remarks upon the qualifications of those country practitioners who rank very high in SELF-ESTIMATION.

And such observations as are rendered unavoidable shall occasionally appear with all possible delicacy, wishing to irritate as little as may be the feelings of any individual, whose want of cultivation and improvement must be considered

considered a misfortune, not a crime; but in whose deficiency of professional knowledge consists the danger which so often occurs, and exposes him to that labyrinth of perplexity, that dilemma of distress, from which no brilliant fertility of genius, no idea of the structure of parts, no corresponding knowledge of medicines or their effects, can possibly arise to extricate him, whilst the suffering animal (in perhaps the most excruciating agonies) expires at the feet of this "*learned judge,*" jury, and executioner.

Experience justifies the assertion, that nine times out of ten the complaint (if internal) remains a matter of hypothesis and conjecture, without one explanatory *note, sentence, shrug, or ejaculation*, by which we may be led to understand or discover the cause; but, as professional stupidity must be defended, we are at last told (with a systematic simplicity and vacuity of countenance) "*the horse is in a great deal of pain.*"

This first point being (not without some difficulty and seeming depth of thought) at length
discovered

discovered, the remedy is then to be obtained; and as, in general, cowards once pushed on become bold in proportion to the danger, so, according to the exigency, some powerful "*Mandragora*" of the "*Materia Medica*" is instantly procured; and, as reputation must be supported, so "*kill or cure*," (time out of mind the ancient and modern medical motto) is compulsively adopted, and the whole *arcana* of equestrian knowledge is let loose, from the very simple preparation of "*sugar sops*" to the more remote, active, and dangerous *mercury*, till relief is fortunately obtained, or the falling favourite expires, in tortures, a martyr to the *ignorance* of the *practitioner* and the *credulity* of its *owner*!

To corroborate this fact one self-evident observation only is necessary to give it due weight, in opposition to a mind even prejudiced against the INNOVATIONS of improvement in practice or rectification in judgment. For instance—Is it possible—can it (after a moments reflection) be supposed—that these men, totally uncultivated in understanding and the most common occurrences in life, whose minds are as rude and
uncivilized

uncivilized as their manners, can be at all conversant or acquainted with the different *properties, qualities, operations or effects*, of a long list of medicines, to all of which they are strangers even in appearance; possessing no other knowledge of the very articles specified but what they have acquired from books and prescriptions, long since become obsolete and useless from their inefficacy? Can they be expected to understand the chemical processes of *mercury, antimony*, and other dangerous medicines they constantly put into use, without knowing their origins, preparations, combination of principles, or the exact line of distinction that renders them *salutary remedies* or *powerful poisons*?

It is also highly necessary to introduce a matter perfectly applicable to the subject of investigation, as an imposition very little known (except to the faculty); and is a palpable disgrace to that body, of which every professor of medicine constitutes a member. It is the common and scandalous adulteration of drugs, a practice too prevalent amongst the *druggists* in the *metropolis*, as well as the country; who, from the predominant passion of gain, so curiously

ously adulterate, as to deceive even those who consider themselves adepts in deception. And this, to be the better enabled to undersell their competitors, convinced, by experience, the majority of FARRIERS admit the medicines that can be purchased CHEAPEST to be much THE BEST.

These circumstances are not introduced or hazarded as matters of opinion, but as palpable facts that speak home to every reader of judgment or experience; and sufficiently indicate the necessity of circulating, from medical authority, the present improved system of modern composition, universally adopted and generally approved, to the approaching extermination of *empirical practice* and *dangerous experiment*. This publication being undertaken to render as plain and familiar as possible a subject that has, through almost every dissertation, been obscured by the *mist* of *ignorance* and *mask* of *mystery*; it is anxiously to be desired in future, that every gentleman who has occasion to elucidate or illustrate his own understanding, by calling to his assistance any of the *learned tribe* before described, so remarkable for their extent of communication,

P R E F A C E.

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munication, will (previous to their administration of medicine) require an explanatory prelude, with satisfactory information upon what *operations* they frame their expectations of relief and success. With the very necessary and additional recommendation, to be particularly careful to obtain their medicines from *Dispensaries* of *reputation*, where the *proprietor* is reported or supposed to have formed a *fair, honourable, and equitable* contract with *emolument* and *reputation*.

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THE
MODERN SYSTEM
OF
FARRIERY.

THE very great discoveries made in the present century have certainly extended to every art and science that could be materially improved by intense study and application; and to none more than the administration of medicine, and its effects upon the HUMAN BODY, by some of the most learned men in every part of Europe: and, from the rapid and universally acknowledged improvements in this system, the most admirable advantages have been obtained, and incredible cures performed. In such general refinement, the ancient mode of practice is not only exploded, but its origin and advocates nearly buried in oblivion. Those stupendous folios,
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the voluminous herbals in the libraries of the botanical votaries, have reluctantly given place to various dissertations on the distinguished efficacy of those grand specifics, *mercury, opium, antimony, bark, &c.* of which so many experimental and efficacious preparations have been discovered by chymical process, as to render of little use or respect any prescription of ancient date, when put in competition with the rational and approved system of modern improvements. The obstinate and invincible advocates for the ancient mode of practice, whether in physic or farriery, are at length obliged to acquiesce in the change; for, what they by inclination were not willing to acknowledge, TIME, TRUTH, and EXPERIENCE, have fully confirmed. But, strange as it may appear (yet shamefully true it is!) notwithstanding this rectification of judgment, very little has yet been done to improve, or produce a change in, the long standing, absurd, and ridiculous SYSTEM of FARRIERY; a change as equally *necessary, just, laudable, equitable, and useful*, as any that can be adopted for the general safety and advantage of our own species. And this becomes more necessarily and immediately the object of serious consideration,

consideration, when circumstances daily evince to the medical practitioner (or compounder of prescriptions) the very great danger to which some of the FINEST HORSES in the world are constantly exposed, by the ignorance and obstinacy of the parties to whose care they are too generally intrusted; every STABLE BOY, aping the groom his superior, and the groom the self-instructed farrier, all have their heads and pockets stuffed with the quintessence of stupidity, collected from the various productions of antiquity, whose very PRESCRIPTIONS are in themselves so obsolete, that many of the articles included have been long since rejected as of no utility. But, as variety must be obtained to effect the necessary purpose, the invention is instantly set at work to substitute new ingredients, for those long since abandoned as superfluous and unnecessary, in medicinal composition. These alterations and substitutes frequently form a most curious collection of contrarieties—*purgatives* and *restringents*, *cordials* and *coolers*, *mercurials*, *antimonials* and *diuretics*, are indiscriminately blended in one mass, as a specimen of these wonderful improvements in the ART of FARRIERY! And those who are most acquainted with this

practice wonder least how the DOG-KENNELS in every part of the kingdom are so amply furnished with HORSE FLESH.

As an elucidation of this circumstance, and to corroborate the consistency of these observations, we need only advert to the treatment of the human species in the time of that luminary, the famous *Sydenham*, who was so much the celebrated favourite of his day, it was almost supposed he could do no wrong. It being then a common practice of his—to order boldly **THIRTY** ounces of blood to be taken from the arm of a man, without fear of *murder*, or danger of *punishment*. And this is not altogether likely to create wonder, when we recollect there is *no law* existing to *hang* a physician for error in judgment. *Time* and *experience* has fixed the standard, according to cases, circumstances, and exigencies, from **SIX** ounces to **SIXTEEN**, which is nearly one half the original evacuation; so that we find by this change of quantity the *modern human body* is supposed to contain no more than one half the proportion of blood that ran in the veins of the **HEROES** of **ANTIQUITY**, unless the whole system is entirely changed, as observed by *Gregory*, in the **MOCK DOCTOR**,

DOCTOR, who says "The heart was formerly on the *left* side, but the COLLEGE have altered all that, and placed it on the *right*."

To produce a case exactly similar in the World of FARRIERY, let us take a survey of the medical abilities of *Gibson*, who certainly wrote much better on the subject than *Bracken*; where we shall find ordered, in a single prescription for a purging ball, *two ounces of aloes*, with the addition of the other usual purging articles, though modern practice and experience fixes the established proportion at exactly *half*, or at most *five eighths*, to the strongest horses, with the cathartic aids before mentioned. He also most courageously recommends *half an ounce of calomel*, or *sublimed mercury*, in a single ball; and speaks of the internal administration of most powerful poisons, *corrosive sublimate* or *red precipitate*, as a matter of course: the proportion for a dose being curiously ascertained by the sublime mensuration of a "silver two-pence," as if a premium had been absolutely provided by *an act of parliament* for the general extirpation of the breed of HORSES, as destructive to the interests of society. Though,

6 OBSERVATIONS.

after prescribing these dreadful remedies, he *modestly* confesses “in the administration there “ is *great danger*; and, unless a horse is very “ strong, he may not be able to recover from “ the experiment.”

This is *doctrine* (and *doctoring*) with a witness! These are the kinds of *experiments*, and this the kind of language that has for two centuries been held forth in almost every tract upon the subject: and, under these absurd, ridiculous, dangerous, and contemptible burlesques upon the application of medicine, will any man, who wishes well to the cause of *humanity*, say some *rational* system of rectification and improvement is not necessary, to rescue from the danger of perpetual experiments the noblest and most valuable quadruped in the creation!

I shall only convey an oblique hint at those catchpenny shifts, or abridgments, from the authors we now speak of, published under the titles of “Ten Minutes Advice;” “The “Pocket Farrier,” &c. &c. and proceed to a few observations upon the *wonderful discoveries, prolix descriptions, tedious digressions, and*
astounding

astorishing tales, of *Henry Bracken* (medicinæ doctor), who, to his diploma, which he boasts of in his preface, adds the strangest complication of language, for a medical author and physician, that ever disgraced a candidate for critical dissection. However bad the compliment may be to my own understanding, or largely it may tend to display my want of taste, I can neither condescend to imitate him in the sublimity of his style, or the fertility of his medical invention: nor shall I presume to copy so great an *original*, by introducing “A Tale of a Tub” in every page foreign to the matter in question, merely for the purpose of swelling this work to a size that may contribute to its disgrace; reserving to myself one consolation—if it does not become entitled to approbation for its *utility*, neither *pique* or *prejudice* shall have just cause to condemn it for its prolixity.

It has been hitherto customary, in the introductory part of tracts upon this subject, to enlarge upon the shape, make, figure, and qualifications, of a horse for the turf, field, road, &c. And all this might be very applicable and proper, *even now*, could we for a moment

suppose that a sportsman does not know a HORSE from an ASS, or that a gentleman attends a repository, fair, market, or sale, with a book in his hand, or his pocket, by way of remembrancer. Exclusive of this consideration, in the present stage of refinement, we are become so truly enlightened, that every juvenile devotee to *Diana*, who has just escaped from the tender anxiety of his *mamma*, and the unsuccessful attention of his *tutor*, talks loudly and confidently of the “*full eye*,” “*small ear*,” “*deep chest*,” “*close fillet*,” “*short back*,” “*strong postern*,” “*sound hoof*,” &c. In short, all those qualifications that are at present universally understood, and in constant request, by the best judges, are very hard to obtain ; and it is by no means an uncommon thing to observe a horse with very few good points, in the possession of those we are apt to believe (from a combination of circumstances), have it in their power to be much better accommodated.

My very worthy and *learned* predecessor *Bracken*, in his digressions for the PUBLIC GOOD, has introduced stories and families of all descriptions and denominations, from the
funeral

funeral of his "favourite mare with ale and
"rosemary," to the "comparison between a
"rider of sixteen stone, and a Scotchman's
"pack;" strictly enjoining every man (who
had not a rational idea of his own corpulence,
or circumference) to be careful in adapting
the strength of his horse to his own weight;
with many other observations of equal sagacity
and penetration. But, as I indulge a much
higher opinion of the understandings of those to
whose serious inspection this treatise will become
subject, I shall not irritate the feelings of any
sportsman, who unluckily rides a great weight,
by reminding him what kind of horse is most
likely to reconcile the inconvenience; but naturally
conclude every reader will exert his judgment
for the procurement of such purchase as will prove
most likely to become adequate to the purposes for
which he is intended.

He also (from an universality of genius, no
doubt) animadverts upon the art of riding and
qualifications of horsemen, their tempers,
dispositions, agility, alacrity, fear, fortitude,
"wry faces, and losing of leather;" descants
largely upon the apparatus of bits, bridles,
saddles,

saddles, &c. entering into the very minutiae of the riding school, which now would be not only degrading the experimental knowledge of every sportsman in the kingdom, but absolutely *smuggling* a subject the acknowledged property of *Angelo, Astley, Hughes, and Jones*.

In respect to the anatomical structure of a horse, nothing can be added upon that subject to excite attention; it has been already so minutely investigated and accurately explained by *Gibson* and *Snape*, that the least room for addition or enlargement is not left for any succeeding writer who does not (as before observed) admit the capacities of the solids to be more enlarged, the fluids increased, or the heart changed from one side to the other, since the days of those authors, who so well fulfilled to the public the tasks they had undertaken. And as the operative part of FARRIERY is not intended to come within the purpose of our present plan, but is entirely submitted to those whose immediate profession it is to be most clearly informed of; to the excellent anatomical works of the above writers I refer them for a completion of their studies, and come to such a system as it is absolutely necessary

OBSERVATIONS. II

cessary for every sportsman to understand, that he may be not only enabled to prescribe for his own horses upon emergencies, but to judge of the propriety of their treatment when, by the severity of circumstances, submitted to the superintendence of others.

Much multifarious matter has constantly been introduced relative to the age of a horse by his mouth; where (after all the observations upon the subject) it becomes an acknowledged fact, by every writer, each sign is doubtful, and liable to deception in the various arts and designs of the dealers, who, by engraving and burning artificial marks in some teeth, and totally extracting (or beating out) others, render the horse of any *seeming* age most applicable to their purpose. And these faults cannot be easily discovered but by grooms or judges who are in the constant habit and practice of making such remarks and observations.

Nor is there any matter in a horse requiring a nicer discrimination in judgment, than to ascertain to a certainty the age of a horse by his teeth only, having absolutely seen two men of abilities
and

and experience, on the opposite sides of a horse's mouth, at the same time declare him of different ages; when, by exchanging sides, each changed his opinion, and the horse proved, by the common rule, to be coming a year older on one side than the other. These doubts in respect to the certainty of age being admitted, one fixed rule is incontrovertible—that, after the mark (which is the general guide) is obliterated, the longer the teeth are, and the narrower the under jaw is towards its extremity, the more the horse is advanced in years.

But, as the age of the horse is so distinctly abstracted from, and unconnected with, the description of disease which becomes more immediately the subject of discussion; I shall leave the former to the subtle decision of the stable disputants, to whose province it may be said to belong, and whom it more materially concerns.

There can be but little doubt that whoever becomes a purchaser, at the present high price of *sound, fresh, and fashionable* horses, will proportion the price to such deficiencies as
times

times and circumstances render unavoidable ; and make pecuniary allowances for *advanced age, broken wind, bad eyes, spavins, splents,* and a long detail of incidental imperfections. But, as such necessary circumspection does not always take place with the young and inexperienced purchaser, a concise hint not to acquire too many infirmities at a high price, merely to gratify a little personal ostentation in an external display of BLOOD and FASHION, cannot be amiss. More particularly when we so frequently see an accidental fall, and consequent laceration upon the knees, prove the transient value of what was (a few minutes before) the object of admiration and possession with every beholder, now become blown upon, and of no greater estimation than to be unrelentingly torn to pieces, by that most *merciful* and *humane* invention—a MAIL COACH of PALMERIAN MEMORY.

Previous to the treatment of diseases, it cannot be inapplicable to point out such things as are strictly necessary, and absolutely conducive to the preservation of health, though perhaps not at all times properly attended to. For instance, no subject is more highly entitled

titled to a distinct and separate investigation than the article of

F E E D I N G,

as a peculiar attention to the qualities and quantities of aliment is particularly necessary to secure the horse in a state of health and condition, fit for the immediate purpose to which he may be destined. To produce him at all times ready for the *turf, field, or road*, becomes necessary the complete style of *cleanliness, dressing, exercise*, and various minutiae, that constitute the present perfect state of stable discipline; which never arose to so high a pitch of excellence, and can have originated only in a laudable emulation, that seems (by a kind of sympathetic inspiration or enthusiasm) to have taken possession of every groom in stables of repute, and renders unnecessary the most trifling observations upon this ceremony, where the horses are thought worthy the attention of MASTER OR MAN.

But it is not so in respect to the articles of *food*. Horses are as often out of condition (in inferior stables) from the effect of improper food,

food, as from natural diseases. Respecting the most proper food to a horse in health, no diversity of opinions can be supported unless by FOOLS or MADMEN.

Experience, that invariable touchstone of *truth*, demonstrates, to an indisputable certainty, the acknowledged preference of *spring-grass* in the field; or *sweet oats*, *sound beans*, and *fragrant hay*, in the stable; to every other article that imagination can invent or novelty supply.

And here it becomes unavoidably necessary to introduce a circumstance that constantly occurs in the course of observation; at least to those who, entering a multiplicity of stables, wish to enlarge their information or exercise their judgment. How very common is it to find a consultation held upon the appearance of a favourite horse, who, to the surprise of the parties, loses flesh, becomes dull and heavy in the stable, languid in action, sickly in coat, and foul in excrement; doomed to a course of *purgatives*, then *diuretics*, and, lastly, a tedious administration of *alteratives*, as sickly and unsound! And all for what?—because the poor
emaciated

emaciated animal, being destitute of the powers of speech, could not better inform his persecutors than by his *emphatical* and misinterpreted looks, that his HAY was *musty*, and consequently laying the foundation of many disorders. For, being thus deprived of more than half his support, the trifling quantity he did take (being against the disposition of *nature* and *appetite*) afforded little nutriment; nor of course could, when fourteen pounds of hay only had perhaps passed the intestinal canal in four days, instead of fifty-six; the accustomed and proper proportion being rated at fourteen pound for twenty-four hours, where horses are regularly corn-fed. To bring this defect in the quality and quantity of this part of the *aliment* home to every comprehension, let any reader conceive the idea (or try the experiment) of sitting down with an excellent appetite (after a more excellent chase) to a beef steak nearly approaching *putrefaction*, with no sauce but *hunger*, no alternative but *necessity*, and I believe I may venture to assert the feelings of the MAN and the BEAST will not be dissimilar on the occasion.

These circumstances attending both hay and corn I have repeatedly been witness to; and
do

CONDITION.

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do affirm, in opposition to any opinion that may be formed against me, most horses will shew, in less than a fortnight, both in their *flesh*, *coat*, and *spirits*, when hay or corn do not yield or convey their proper *nutriment*, if given in fair and just proportions. I consequently avail myself of this fact, to urge the necessity of *sound corn*, *sweet hay*, *regular feeds*, and *as regular exercise*, if a horse is desired or expected to appear in good

CONDITION.

The word *CONDITION*, in the phraseology of the *turf*, is supposed to imply a horse's being in such a state of perfection, and in strength and power so much above the purpose he is destined to, that he displays it in figure and appearance. *Fine in coat*, *firm in flesh*, *high in spirits*, and *fresh upon his legs*. To be in this desirable state, if a young horse, and stranger to hard work, may be readily expected, and naturally concluded; but, on the contrary, where a horse has been subject to a proportion of duty, either on the *turf*, *field*, or *road*, a great degree of good fortune must

C

have

have attended him through all his journies, not to have suffered from some one of the many dangers to which he has been so repeatedly exposed. By way therefore of introducing directions for getting a horse into condition, it will be most proper to fix the criterion of commencement at that season when a hunter, having had what is called a summer's run, is taken up with an intent to get him into proper condition for the field. The horse being taken up, if he is free from lameness, and there is no blemish, infirmity, or any other obstacle, to forbid such proceedings, put him first upon a very moderate proportion of hay and corn, and increase it gradually, according to the size and constitution. At the expiration of three or four days, when the hard food may naturally be supposed to have dislodged the grass, and supplied it's place, a proportion of blood may be taken away according to the size, state, strength, and temperament of the horse, with due attention to the flesh he may have gained, or the impurities he may have imbibed with his pasture.

And here let me particularly caution the operator and the owner against that *slowly,*
infernal,

infernal, and *contemptible* (not to add dangerous) practice of suffering the blood to fall indiscriminately, in respect to quantity and quality, upon the *ground* or *dunghill*. This self-sufficient manner of

B L E E D I N G

the Farrier always considers a striking proof of his consequence, and a never-failing mark of his infallibility; but it never can be too much discouraged; and in fact ought by no means to be countenanced, or indeed permitted. If no particular plethora or fulness appears, to render large evacuations necessary, *three pints* will prove sufficient for a slender or delicate subject; *two quarts* for the more advanced in strength or size; but from the very large and strong, or remarkably foul horses, may be safely drawn full *five pints*. But these distinctions should be carefully made by measure, to avoid the inconvenience and danger of too much relaxing the whole system; an impropriety in conduct that may not be so easily remedied as imagined. After this evacuation let the same regular system of food,

and gentle exercise, be continued for three clear days; and on the fourth prepare his body for the physic intended to be taken on the following morning, by giving him in the course of the day *three mashes* of equal parts of bran and oats, scalded with boiling water, and given, at a proper degree of warmth, morning, noon, and night; putting on the necessary body clothes, at the time of giving the first mash, to prevent the least hazard of cold from the relaxation of either body or pores. In the morning give one of the following *purging balls*, of which four different proportions are specified, and calculated for the horses before mentioned, in respect to strength, size, and constitution. But as we shall, in the course of the work, have occasion to introduce *references* to these CATHARTIC BALLS, under the heads of various diseases, it will be more convenient to distinguish them by *numbers*; and, beginning with the weakest, the *reference* need only be made to the *number* in future, without a repetition of the ingredients.

P U R G I N G

PURGING BALL.

(No. 1.)

Take of succotrine aloes one ounce;
 India rhubarb two drachms;
 Jalap and cream of tartar each one drachm;
 Ginger in powder two scruples;
 Effential oil of cloves and aniseed each twenty drops;
 Syrup of buckthorn a sufficient quantity to form the ball.

(No. 2.)

Take of succotrine aloes ten drachms;
 Of rhubarb, jalap, and ginger, each two drachms;
 Cream of tartar three drachms, and syrup of buckthorn to make the ball.

(No. 3.)

Take Barbadoes aloes nine drachms;
 Jalap, Castile soap, and cream of tartar, of each two drachms;
 Diagrydium and ginger in powder each a drachm;
 Syrup of buckthorn sufficient to make the ball.

(No. 4.)

Take Barbadoes aloes ten drachms ;

Castile soap and jalap in powder of each half an ounce ;

Cream of tartar and ginger each two drachms ;

Oil of aniseed forty drops ; of cloves twenty drops ; which form into a ball, with syrop of roses or buckthorn.

It is almost unnecessary to observe these BALLS are gradually increased in their *purgative qualities*, so as to be selected by the judgement of the reader, according to the state of strength and foulness the subject may be in ; and are so carefully guarded with warm aromatics, that the *operation* will (by a strict adherence to the following RULES) in general proceed with the least alarm or danger. The BALL being given early in the morning, let it be washed down with a quart of water slightly, warm to take off the *nausea* as much as possible ; leave in his rack a little sweet hay ; and, in about three hours after, give a warm mash of *scalded bran*, containing one fourth of *oats* ; upon which let the water be poured

poured boiling hot, and stand a proper time to cool, before it is put into the manger; as by placing it there too hot the fumes produce an antipathy which the horse does not easily get over; on the contrary, by touching the *mash*, and being burnt, will not be prevailed upon to attempt it in future. In case of a fixed aversion to *mashes*, a FEED of BRAN may be given at the stated periods, in which may be mixed one quart of GROUND OATMEAL. Water proportionally warm may be given him to the quantity of half a pail thrice in the day; and let his *mash* be repeated twice that day also, and early on the following morning, about which time the physic may be expected to begin its operation; but if the mash should be refused, a pail of warm water may be substituted; and in two hours after the horse (well clothed) walked out for half an hour at least. Frequent supplies of warm water must be given, and two other mashes at their proper times; by no means omitting to take him out, and walk him gently twice or thrice in the course of the day. But, as purgatives administered to quadrupeds of this description cannot, from the great continuation of the intestinal canal, be expected to commence

their operation in less than twenty-four hours, no hurrying or forcing methods must be taken to agitate the animal, or produce preternatural effects. So soon as the medicine begins to operate, kindly and patiently assist the work by the means before mentioned, at stated periods, or at such times as the appetite will permit them to be taken; continuing the mashes no longer than the physic is said to be set, or (in other words) the excrements become firm, and resume their original form.

Indeed the management of horses, during a course of physic, is at present so well understood, that little more need be added upon that subject; excepting the very necessary precaution to avoid *cold* during these operations, by a proper attention to the variations of the weather, and proportional clothing to the horse: for a cold caught at the season we speak of, and particularly during a course of physic, by fixing on the eyes or lungs, becomes an inveterate enemy to sport, and sometimes for the whole winter.

Six clear days should be allowed between the first and second dose, and the same space
between

between the second and third. The entire course being regularly gone through, it will undoubtedly remove every degree of foulness, resulting from full feeding at grass: and, unless some palpable defect or latent obstacle indicates the contrary, he will (in little more than a fortnight) by his *flesh*, *coat*, and *spirits*, prove his ability to undertake any moderate chase in which his rider may be inclined to engage.

A proper respect to the abilities of *Bartlet* (who has very considerably improved and modernized the system of *Gibson* and *Bracken*) induces me to give a literal copy of his preparation for “a cooling purging drink;” which, as he observes, “is cooling, easy, and quick” in its operation, and greatly preferable, in “all inflammatory cases, to any other purge, “as it passes into the blood, and operates also “by urine,”

“TAKE fenna two ounces; infuse in a pint of “boiling water two hours, with three drachms of “salt of tartar; pour off and dissolve in it four “ounces of glauber salts, and two or three drachms “of cream of tartar.”

In

In inflammatory cases, where a cathartic is required to operate expeditiously; or where a horse, by his rejecting powers, compels a ball to regurgitate, and it cannot be easily or properly passed, this drink may be admitted with propriety. But where a dose of physic is given merely as a purgative, without any indication of instantaneous necessity, I must, in justice, certainly recommend a ball in preference: and for this reason, which I doubt not will prove perfectly consistent and satisfactory to every mind prepared for information.—The ball being given, is twenty-four hours in its gradual dissolution in the stomach, and subsequent passage through the intestinal canal; this, by its gentle and regular solution of the excrements, and lubrication of the parts, accounts most readily for the great ease any of the preceding balls work off with in general, without the least necessity for all that alarm and apprehension betrayed by so many, who prefer the chance of spoiling, or at least injuring, a capital horse, to seeing him under the temporary disquietude of a salutary course of physic.

The same ease is not to be expected in the operation of a cathartic medicine conveyed in a
liquid

liquid form ; for, the joint qualities and force of the different ingredients being let loose at the same moment upon the internal coat of the stomach, without their stimulative powers being covered by aromatic or carminative ingredients, may (exclusive of the disagreeable sensation excited by their action upon the irritability of the stomach) be productive of spasms, or very severe griping pains, previous to the laxation of the hardened fœces in the intestines.

And where such pains are evidently predominant, (the proper time being more than expired,) and there is no palpable sign of the physic's beginning to operate kindly, (which, for the consolation of those unacquainted with the ceremony, is very seldom the case, particularly if the medicines are carefully and accurately prepared) so far from applauding the rashly recommended system of oiling "*a small band,*" and extracting the excrement from the fundament, I relinquish every expectation of finding "*a very small band*" among farriers or grooms, and consequently disclaim the idea of encouraging any such practice, unless the *rectum* should be absolutely *plugged* up, so as
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to prevent the passing of the pipe for the injection of a glyster, which should be given immediately with a large bag and pipe procured for the purpose, and repeated if necessary; making not the least doubt but this *lubrication* and *stimulus* will remove all obstructions, and afford every advantage that can be obtained from the favourite and long standing practice of RAKING.

To prepare the G L Y S T E R.

Take of camomile flowers, sweet fennel, and coriander seeds bruised, of each one ounce; caraway seeds half an ounce; boil in two quarts of water till reduced to three pints; then strain, and add for solution, while hot, of Epsom salts two ounces; and, when nearly cool enough to administer, add of olive oil, and tincture of fenna, commonly called Daffy's Elixer, of each a quarter of a pint.

On the contrary, where the constitutional stamina does not prove so strong as imagined, the bowels in a weaker state than expected, or the medicines are found to irritate or purge more than is requisite or desired; and the physic does not set at the usual time, (the horse
being

being consequently low, and off his appetite) let the following CORDIAL RESTRINGENT BALL be prepared, and given immediately, repeating it in six or eight hours if necessary.

Take mithridate one ounce ; Armenian bole and prepared chalk (both in fine powder), each half an ounce ; ginger in powder one drachm ; syrup of diacodium quantity sufficient to make a ball.

In three hours after let the following RESTRINGENT MASH be given, properly prepared, and kept occasionally stirring when over the fire, to prevent its burning : or this may be given, if necessary, without the ball, where the operation has not been so violent as to require both.

RESTRINGENT MASH.

Take two pounds of rice, and half an ounce of cinnamon, bruised to a gross powder, and tied up loose in a piece of linen, (fine enough to prevent its passing through,) boil in five quarts of water till reduced to the consistence of a mash ; take out the cinnamon, and stir in a quart of ground oatmeal, and let it be placed in the manger when
of

of a proper warmth. This may be repeated if necessary.

It cannot be inapplicable, after these prescriptions, to make a remark upon one observation of *Bartlet*, who seems to think it unavoidably necessary to omit a designed part of his prescription at some times, on account of the expence ; but I must confess, in all my experience, I have observed, and happy I am to acknowledge it, to the honour of the sporting world at large, I never remember to have seen an instance of *penury*, or even hesitation in the article of expence, where a HORSE has been in danger or pain.

Having gone through the process universally established for getting horses into proper condition, it becomes necessary to proceed to the long list of accidents and diseases to which they are subject : and to introduce such medical system as (after a gradual succession from generation to generation, and from grandfire to grandson, in the old style) has at length acquired a degree of reformation and approbation, by the experimental rejection of the ancient botanical practice, BELIEVED INFALLIBLE ; and the innumerable

numerable discoveries made in the world of medicine, by some of the most learned, judicious, and enlightened characters in every part of the globe. And where the applications of modern invention are introduced, as much more adequate and applicable to the cause of complaint than the practice of former writers, the reason shall be constantly adduced, and supported by incontrovertible proof, why the present mode of treatment is entitled to every degree of preference and respect.

Without becoming a convert to the usual style of dividing and subdividing chapters, cases, and remedies, as has in general been the custom, introducing a large proportion of extraneous matter, merely by way of swelling the work (as a compliment to the pecuniary sensations of the publisher) I shall proceed, as in many other respects, the direct contrary way, and contract the plan as much as the consistency of circumstances will permit, by bringing into classes such accidents or diseases as bear a degree of affinity to each other, or come under a similar mode of treatment; and shall likewise (as much as possible) divest each case and explanation of *technical terms*, that every part may be the more universally comprehended.

C L A S S

CLASS I.

SPLENTS, SPAVINS, WINDGALLS, AND STRAINS.

S P L E N T S ;

OF which various accounts have been given, without any thing satisfactory as to their origin or cure, except that “ they are hard excrescences of different shapes and sizes on the shank bone, which often disappear of themselves ;” that “ they are not dangerous but when situated near the joints, or appear very large upon the back part of the bone, and press against the back sinew.” All this is most certainly true, and generally believed to be so. Now let us remark what follows as directions for cure : “ That the hair is to be shaved, the part to be rubbed with a
“ round

“ round stick *till it is almost raw*, and then
 “ touched with *oil of origanum, sublimate,*
 “ *arsenic, or oil of vitriol.*” You are then told
 “ these may produce an *ulcer, a rottenness* of
 “ the *bone*, and, when cured, an *ugly scar!*”
 Another says “ It is to be *soundly* rubbed
 “ with the handle of a hammer, till it is so
 “ much *bruised* as to bring on an imposthume,
 “ and consequent suppuration or discharge of
 “ matter!” And there can be no doubt but
 this is rubbing it *soundly* with the IMPOSTHUME
 for a *witness!*

Another tells you “ they are to be destroyed
 “ with actual cauteries, or flat instruments of
 “ iron, made red hot, and applied to the
 “ splents, placing a piece of the rind of bacon
 “ between, with the fat side outwards ; and,
 “ having a second iron heating alternately with
 “ the first, the operation is to be repeated till
 “ the splent is dissolved.” To these, in case
 of failure, they acknowledge the necessary aid
 of “ *blistering, firing,*” &c. &c. Now, upon
 a candid investigation of this accumulated
 variety of opinions, we shall find them amount
 to a verification of an observation not long
 since made ; a paltry practice of swelling their
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writings at the expence of a reader's UNDERSTANDING as well as his PURSE. From circumstances the most predominant it absolutely appears that neither of the authors here quoted (notwithstanding the degree of estimation they may be held in) gave himself time, even for a moment, to consider the nature of the "ex-crescence" he means or wishes to describe, or the method of cure he may be naturally anxious to recommend.

And this the more powerfully appears, by the ridiculous attempt to destroy what they acknowledge an apparent ossification, or bony substance, seated upon a solid body, under the integuments, without a destruction of the integuments themselves, or a palpable injury to the component parts. But, to bring this matter as near the truth as conjecture can justify, we will (by allowing an alternative), take one or other for the fact, and draw what must appear a very natural and just conclusion; that is, whether the protuberance upon any part of the shank-bone, called a Splent, is an enlargement of the *periosteum* (or membrane covering the bone), by an original rupture of the small vessels, and the extravasated fluid collected and become indurated by time? or, a
callosity

callosity originally formed upon the bone, (as hinted by *Gibson*) and becoming ossified, constitutes a bony substance, seeming a deformed part of the bone itself? In either case the only expectation of cure, without anxiety and difficulty, is to be careful in observing such appearances in their *earliest state*; and then *seeing* that frequent friction is used for a considerable time, twice every day, with the utmost force of the operator's hands, letting the part be well moistened, after each time of rubbing, with a proportion of the following liniment; leaving a pledget of tow wet with the same, bound on pretty firm with two yards of wide tape as a roller:

Take camphorated spirits of wine, and spirits of turpentine, of each four ounces (a quarter of a pint); mix together.

When this plan has been persevered in for ten days or a fortnight, you will then be able to judge whether any perceptible advantage has been obtained from the force of these powerful repellents: if not, procure two ounces of the strongest mercurial ointment, and let the size of a hazel nut be well rubbed in upon the

part affected, every night and morning, till the whole is consumed, using the roller each night, and taking it off in the morning. If this does not succeed, the best and most speedy method will be the immediate extirpation by making a longitudinal incision ("without *bruising*, "*hammering*," &c.) through the integuments, dissecting and extracting the substance, completing the cure by taking up a couple of stitches, and treating it as a superficial wound; for which directions will be found under that head.

In respect to the auxiliaries of purging balls and diuretic drinks, slightly recommended by *Bartlet*, they form no part of my opinion; nor can I see the least reason for encountering that expence and trouble, as they cannot contribute in any degree to the removal of such substances, so remote from the centre of action, without injuring the general system to a greater degree, than adequate to any proportional local relief that can be obtained. But to reduce this mysterious and technical explanation to a more simple and less complex idea, *Bartlet's* system may be adopted by those whose credulity can conceive that a course
of

of purgatives and diuretics will contribute to the removal of *corns* or *warts* from the feet or hands of the human species.

S P A V I N S.

OF these there are two kinds, very distinctly explained by most authors on the subject, and justly denominated a BLOOD and BONE SPAVIN. They both take their seats in nearly the same situation, and proceed from the following causes—a BLOOD SPAVIN is a preternatural enlargement of the vein running on the inside the hough, and by the accumulated fluid forms a swelling that is pliant to the touch, submitting to pressure, becoming, in the course of time, productive of lameness. These appearances, were they attended to in their infancy, would (as observed in the preceding article) immediately submit to a frequent application of the following embrocation; rubbing in about two table spoonfulls twice every day, and keeping on (when in the stable) a pledget of tow, wet with the same, and confined with an elbow bandage; that is, the elbow part of an old waistcoat sleeve,

D 3

opened

opened and furnished with tape strings, at equal distances, to confine it upon the part affected.

Take of strong white wine vinegar four ounces ;
Camphorated spirits of wine three ounces ;
Extract of saturn, commonly called Goulard's
Extract, one ounce.

Shake well together at every time of using.

In almost all cases of short standing the cause of complaint will submit to the power of these constant applications, that, by their action upon the solids, so restore their elasticity and contract their circumference as to repel the internal expanding fluid, and reduce the vein to its natural and original size. But where the defect is of long standing, and will not submit to this mode of treatment (the attempt having been sufficiently persevered in to ensure a fair probability of success), the following had better be adopted,

Take of cantharides in powder one drachm and a half ;

Of olive oil two ounces ;—Mix together.

And

And let this be gradually rubbed upon the part till absorbed by the seat of disease; then place over it a piece of flannel, and fasten on with the elbow bandage as before described. In eight-and-forty hours repeat this operation (with the same proportion), which has been attended with certain success in a multiplicity of cases, particularly in the metropolis of Ireland, where the most eminent practitioners (and very able there are) prefer it to our general method, which will be hereafter described. The great advantage resulting from this kind of blister is its immediate *stimulus* upon the parts, from which is derived a very speedy and plentiful discharge. The hair is raised up, and becomes what is termed *pen-feathered* during the efflux of *serum* in large proportion; which, subsiding, forms a kind of scurf, and may be all brought away in a few days by washing two or three times with soap and water; leaving no scar or trace of external application behind. And surely this method, justified by success and experience, must be preferable to the long standing opinion of instrumental extirpation. As for instance, an incision is to be made through the skin of sufficient length to admit of the vein's being

taken up, above and below the enlargement, by passing a crooked needle, furnished with a wax thread, underneath the vein, and making the ligatures at the parts most applicable to the extirpation intended. Should any inflammation, or extreme swelling, attend the parts after operation, warm fomentations and mild poultices must be made use of till they subside; after which the wound must be treated with digestives till the exuberance is sloughed off with the dressings, and the cicatrization, or skinning over, is accomplished, as in the case of abscesses and wounds, which will be treated of hereafter when we come to that class.

Every degree of information, observation, and experimental investigation, defines a BONE SPAVIN to be exactly in a greater degree *behind* what a SPLENT is acknowledged to be *before*; formed nearly by the same means, fed nearly in the same manner, differing only in its critical situation; which, from a contiguity to the joints, and ligamentary appendages, becomes so much the more an object of concern and attention, to avoid the certain impediment of lameness, which will, in time, inevitably ensue, if not prevented by reduction
or

or extirpation. Much advice and many directions might here be obtruded of *blistering*, *firing*, &c. but they all come so immediately within the department of the OPERATIVE FARRIER that further animadversion upon the subject will be totally foreign to the present intention—one observation and recommendation only excepted, viz. the necessity, *in operations*, of applying to practitioners of EMINENCE, whose judgment and execution will require no greater pecuniary compensation than those whose comparative abilities entitle them to no more than a mere *manual assistance* in furnishing the *apparatus*.

WINDGALLS.

ARE those prominences situate on both sides the tendons, (commonly called the back sinews) above the fetlock joints on the fore-legs, and not unfrequently upon the hind-legs likewise. They are much larger on some horses than others; and as they never appear but upon those that have been constantly worked too young, or proportionally over-worked when older, the cause will be the more readily explained,

explained. For the tendons, by their perpetual action in constant labour, are so preternaturally extended that some of the fine and delicate fibres, of which the aggregate is composed, are, by such extension, actually ruptured or broken; from the mouths of which, (minute as they are) ooze a very trifling portion of serum, or fluid, which, when extravasated, forms a gelatinous substance, and, combining itself with the included air, becomes, to external appearance, a kind of bladder between the tendon and integuments.

This being the exact system of principle and action that constitutes the cause, we proceed to the received notion (and our own opinion) of cure. Perhaps it may not be thought intrusive or inapplicable first to introduce a few words upon the subject of *prevention*, which will convey a much stronger proof of judgment in the *rider*, than any subsequent advice that can possibly be offered on the part of the FARRIER; that is, no more than to recommend it to every man in the possession of a *good horse* to reflect a little upon the nature of his *own* superiority, that it is but *temporary*, and of fleeting duration; to
ruminate

ruminate upon this circumstance in the career of his journey, and, feeling proportionally for the animal who bears his burthen, take no more of his strength in the field, or upon the road, than nature intended, or prudence may dictate.

For so beautiful a beast, constituting almost the central point of every good, (whether in pleasure or profit,) is certainly entitled to the utmost exertion of tenderness and humanity : and I will venture to affirm that no man whose line of conduct is regulated by the principles of un sullied rectitude, (or whose heart is open to those finer feelings that are even in *enjoyment* or *possession* a gratification), ever did, or ever will, after a *chase*, or *journey*, indulge the calls of appetite till the partner of his pleasure, or the companion of his labour, has had every attention paid to his wants ; which Nature has formed equally numerous and necessary with those of his (often unnatural) RIDER.

The frequent boasting of every unfeeling puppy who has rode thirty or forty miles in " so many hours and so many minutes, without

out baiting," and other equestrian exploits, equally wonderful, leaving the jaded object of his persecution to the affected diligence of idle grooms or drunken ostlers, not only accounts, in a variety of cases, for the appearance of windgalls, but for very many of the long list of diseases, upon which we proceed to expatiate.

But from this digression we return to the cure, respecting which various opinions have been promulgated, "vinegar, or verjuice, and
"bandage; red wine lees; carriers' shavings
"wetted with vinegar; blistering;" and, lastly,
"opening with a knife, a fleam, or a cobbler's
"awl, and applying to the orifice a plaster of
"rosin, pitch, mastic, oil of bays, and white
"of egg." I shall not add a single observation upon this most curious plaster, or wonderful arcanum of variety, but declare I have seen but very few instances of a perfect cure by any means. For whether a temporary completion has been obtained by *repellents*, *blistering*, *perforation*, or *rest*, a repetition of the ordinary work has soon produced a repetition of the defect. It is a consolation, however, to be informed that, in most horses, no lameness is
produced

produced by this appearance; and the only inconvenience it constitutes, is the disagreeable effect upon the eye (and indeed no *inconsiderable* one upon the *pocket*), when the horse comes to be fold. Windgalls are always very much enlarged after severe work, and again reduced by constant friction or substantial rubbing down in the stable. And this circumstance is mentioned only to corroborate the *thesis* advanced to establish their origin.

Although a total eradication is but seldom experienced, it will be necessary to introduce the most approved and rational methods now in practice to obtain the desirable object of relief; and this can be effected only by *rarefaction*, *repulsion*, and *bandage*, to promote the intentional operations of which

Take oil of origanum and spirits of turpentine each half an ounce;

Camphorated spirits of wine one ounce; mix well together;

and with a small portion of tow sufficiently moisten the tumors twice every day, leaving a pledget wet upon each; and immediately upon the centre fix a circular piece of lead,
about

about the thickness and circumference of a half crown piece, binding it down with a roller of wide tape or linen, nearly or quite three yards long, and continue this method for a fortnight at least without omission; to which treatment (if not of too long standing) they may perhaps luckily submit: but should that not happen, and it is determined to attempt the cure by *perforation*, which operation is simple, and may be easily performed, the *incision* should be made with a strong abscess lancet, and be performed in a single motion, by elevating or raising the instrument from the moment of penetration at the lower part of the swelling. The confined gelatinous matter, or cyst, being perfectly extracted, prevent its becoming a wound by bringing the edges in contact; and dress with a pledget of lint or tow plentifully impregnated with *Traumatic* (or *Friar's*) *Balsam*, and bandage as before. In most cases the cicatrix will form, and the part heal without farther trouble: on the contrary should any discharge of matter come on, or temporary inflammation ensue, dress as directed when we come to the treatment of WOUNDS.

STRAINS

S T R A I N S

ARE a part of this treatise, to which such frequent application will be made for information, that they cannot be too accurately explained for the purpose of being well understood. And as I would much rather appeal to the taste and critical inquiries of the intelligent and enlightened reader, than the caprice of the prejudiced vulgar, I shall be more anxious to obtain the approbation of the judicious by a minute and explanatory investigation, than the sanction of the multitude by such a superficial account as would best come into compact with the standard of their comprehension.

To understand this subject clearly it is unavoidably necessary to be informed, not only of the causes from which such complaints proceed, but the parts that constitute the seat of disease itself. To acquire which let it be observed STRAINS are of two sorts, the one originating in the ligamentary parts, by which the different joints are preserved in contact;
the

the other by a relaxation of the *muscles*, or *tendons*, whose purposes are the direct office of *motion*. Hence it is that the farrier and groom are so frequently at a loss for their definition or explanation of any particular lameness, fixing it by *conjecture* upon *any* part (attributing it to *any* cause) but the right; and to this they are seldom directed by any mental information, possessing a very barren conception of the structure of parts, their purposes, or appropriations. The *muscles* or *tendons* (by farriers generally termed sinews) are strong elastic substances, composed of innumerable threads or fibres, possessing the properties of extension and contraction to a certain degree, beyond which their flexibility or elasticity cannot be extended without palpable injury, and certain lameness; for, by overstraining, their elastic quality (or affinity to catgut) is in a great measure destroyed in proportion to the injury sustained. To render this idea so clear that it cannot be misunderstood, let us suppose that a horse is going at his rate, and in so doing his toe covers a prominence, or the edge of one, where the heel has no support, it consequently extends the tendons beyond the distance afforded by nature, and instantly constitutes

stitutes what is called a letting down of the back sinews, a circumstance that constantly happens upon the turf in running for a heat, and the horse is then said to have been "broken down."

This being supposed to have happened, the principal indication of cure will immediately strike every reader, so far as the gradual contraction and tone of the tendon is concerned; but the previous and instantaneous consideration will be to prevent, as much as possible, any consequent inflammation that may fall upon the part. To which end take away, so soon as convenient after the injury is sustained, a proportion of blood adequate to the state and strength of the subject, from a vein as contiguous to the part affected as may be consistent; and, as your success will in a great degree depend upon the earliest applications, procure a quart of the best white wine vinegar, or very strong verjuice; and, after making it hot over the fire, add one ounce of the extract of Saturn; and with this foment the leg every night and morning, bandaging the part with a broad roller of a sufficient length, straining it pretty firm. After using this fomentation for two nights and mornings, begin

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with

with the following embrocation ; and let two or three table spoonfuls be gently and gradually rubbed into the affected part, every night and morning, never omitting the use of the bandage tolerably firm.

Take of Barbadoes tar and spirits of turpentine each two ounces ;

Opodeldoc four ounces ;—mix well together and keep stopped.

Previous to the use of this, should any degree of inflammation have been productive of swelling, a poultice may be applied twice a day, prepared with a proper quantity of oatmeal, rendered of a necessary consistence, with a strong decoction of wormwood and camomile (boiling a large handful of each in three pints of water and straining off) ; this, by its emollient tendency, will contribute to the early reduction of the inflammation, without a farther relaxation of the tendinous parts : but the poultice must be immediately discontinued so soon as the swelling subsides, and the embrocation taken into use, as above directed. To this very constant application must be added *rest* ; too much stress cannot be laid upon this most predominant and necessary article ; from
which

which the greater good must certainly result. To the want of *patience* and *mercy* only it is to be attributed that such an infinite number of fine horses have been staked to the *burning cautery*, that, with proper time in the field, would have been as certainly saved from the heat of the iron. And it is no less astonishing that, in the present age of equestrian sagacity and penetration, few can be found whose reason will sufficiently demonstrate the absolute necessity of *time* and *rest* to restore the tone of a relaxed muscle, or tendon; a system of knowledge as clear as any mechanical principle that can be produced. When the horse has continued in the stable, under the treatment here mentioned, for a fortnight, he should, if in the winter, have his liberty in a large stable or barn; where he will, by a natural attention to his own ease and safety, (unless hurried, driven, or disturbed, which should be prevented) sufficiently guard the injured part. On the contrary, if in the summer he should be turned into a pasture alone, and at a distance from other horses, where he cannot, by their neighings, be excited to any exertion of spirit or extravagance, that may occasion a relapse. But in either case, if the enlargement of the

part (that generally attends) does not subside, and the lameless bear visible marks of amendment, so soon as may reasonably be expected, take the horse up, and immediately apply the following liquid blister:

Take cantharides (or Spanish flies) in powder three drachms:

Olive oil four ounces; mix well together.

This must be deliberately and gradually rubbed over the whole part for at least half an hour, letting it be entirely absorbed by the feat of pain if possible; then cover it with a woollen bandage, and shorten the halter to prevent its being forced off: the ceremony and effect of this kind of application is before described under the article of blood-spavin. At the expiration of three or four days he should be turned out, and not have even a halter upon him for six weeks, or two months, at least: and, however sound he may seem to be, his exercise, or work, should be very gentle; first boiling half a pint of common sea-salt in a quart of the best and strongest vinegar that can be procured: this keep in a bottle in the stable, and let the necessary part, or parts, be well

well bathed with this restraining (and a very useful one it will be found) for a quarter of an hour every night and morning, till double the quantity has been used. Under this practice I have seen the complete cure of many, without instantly recurring to a perpetual blemish by the present rage for *firing*, which is, in general, by much too speedily adopted, and no doubt upon most occasions hurried on by the pecuniary propensity and dictation of the interested operator, anxious to display his dexterity, or (as Scrub says) "his newest flourish," in the operation; which, when performed, and the horse is turned out (as must be), if taken up *sound*, I shall ever attribute much more of the cure to that *grand specific*, REST, than to the effect of his fire. Nothing can be more truly contemptible than the ridiculous and absurd adoption of the ancient practice of cold charges, compounded of articles calculated, in some degree, to what they call brace the parts it is true, but tending much more to form a kind of bandage by its firmness of adhesion, than medical relief by its power of penetration. And this will be the more readily credited when a moment's consideration is afforded to the fact: for what inherent restraining virtues

can be possessed by "*doe's hair, Armenian bole, rye flour, or oatmeal,*" more than the properties of forming a cement, (equal to a bandage,) for keeping the parts in a firm and certain position, constituting a pompous prelude to the general idea of REST.

No one advocate for *cold charges*, or strengthening poultices, will be confident enough to declare they retain a sufficient portion of *stimulus* to penetrate the integuments; and, by their restraining or contracting powers, affect the tone or elasticity of the relaxed *tendon*. If so, I will venture to hazard an opinion that what efficacy they may hold individually, is entirely locked up in the mass of composition, and forms no other merit as a corroborant than a medical substitute for a bandage of rollers, &c.; with this exception only, that it bears the appearance of business, or sagacity extraordinary, in the *farrier* and *groom* employed in the elaborate preparation; who may prevent their loss of time, and prostitution of judgment, by methods much more eminently entitled to approbation, as founded upon principles of *reason*, and sanctioned by success. The same observations hold good in
respect

respect to poultices; they never should be applied to strains, but in cases of swelling and inflammation; as they can only contribute to the very reverse of the general intention by relaxing the system, they are employed to contract.

I can have no doubt, (notwithstanding the dictatorial manner in which instructions were formerly conveyed, amounting almost to a degree of infallibility,) but the majority of readers who condescend to ruminate at all upon the subject, will instantly admit the great probability of receiving a greater portion of relief from active liquids, that, by their volatile and penetrative power, (assisted by frequent and industrious application) rush immediately into contact with the seat of pain, than from a compound of mere simples formed into elaborate poultices or cataplasms, that are prevented by the nature of the parts, (as the hair, and thickness of the skin,) from bringing so inactive a mass into effect, with parts requiring restringents of much greater power and penetration.

Strains in the ligamentary parts are in general occasioned by sudden jerks, short turns, or sinking in deep ground, and forcible exertions to get extricated. These being situated at the junction of the bones, and in most cases so covered with the muscles and soft parts, that no great expectation of relief can be formed upon the efficacy of external application, when the seat of pain is unluckily so remote from the surface. But as these cases are very frequently productive of internal heat, exciting symptomatic inflammation, wash well with the following lotion, three or four times every day, adhering still closely to the article of *rest*, already repeatedly mentioned, and never can be sufficiently attended to; remembering also the great utility of bandage, where it can be conveniently applied;

Take best white wine vinegar one pint;

Extract of Saturn one ounce;

Camphorated spirits of wine four ounces;

And rain or pond water one pint.

Mix the extract with the camphorated spirits; then add the vinegar, shaking well together; and, lastly, add the water for frequent use.

To

To enumerate the variety of strains, and particularize the different symptoms constituting each, would be an endless undertaking; such information, or knowledge, must always depend upon the judgment and attention of the operator; for such directions from books are always doubtful, and seldom decisive. Nor can it be believed that different horses *lamed in this part*, or *strained in that*, will all *step*, *halt*, or *retreat*, in the same manner; if so, I may venture to affirm the idea will be frequently as *lame* as the horse!

To ascertain the seat of disease to a certainty, the judicious investigation will depend much on the EYE, more on the TOUCH; and, if assisted by observation and experience, he will very rarely err in the effect of his judgment: for, his minute examination being made with a necessary attention to concurring circumstances, he will seldom fail to convey a true state of the case upon almost every investigation.

Previous to the final dismissal of this article, it may not be inapplicable to introduce the *composition* of a BLISTER in great estimation, and of a different form, calculated for
those

those who may be in some degree attached to the *former* mode of practice, and indulge their doubts of the efficacy of the *liquid blister* before described.

Take of Venice turpentine and quicksilver each one ounce: rub together in a mortar till the quicksilver is no longer visible; then add

Of the ointment of marshmallows and yellow digestive, commonly called basilicon, each two ounces; and, lastly,

Of cantharides (or Spanish flies), three drachms;

Of corrosive mercury one drachm, both in fine powder, mixing the whole well together.

A portion of this to be carefully rubbed into every part upon which the blister is required to take effect; and the remainder to be laid on as thick as judgment may dictate, or the case require, covering the whole with a piece of sheep or lambskin leather, having a margin spread with sticking diachylon; over this may be placed any other convenient bandage, making it firm, and using every precaution to prevent its being stripped off by the horse, so soon as its stimulating power makes him sensible of his situation.

The

The *operation* of FIRING is so much the rage at present (without a relative consideration to his becoming disfigured), that a single observation on the subject is rendered unnecessary, one offer of advice only excepted, viz.—Never to adopt an alternative so truly *disagreeable* and *distressing* till all the more *gentle* applications have repeatedly failed in effect; amongst which do not let the following be omitted:

Take oil of wormwood one ounce

Amber and origanum, oils of each half an ounce;

Camphorated spirits of wine and opodeldoc of each four ounces; and let a proportion (according to the injury sustained) be gently rubbed into the part twice every day.

Or,

Take extract of Saturn and camphorated spirits each two ounces;

Opodeldoc four ounces.—Mix the extract and camphorated spirits together; then add the opodeldoc, and use as above, never omitting the use of proper bandage.

CLASS II.

CRACKS, SCRATCHES, THRUSH, and GREASE.

CRACKS and SCRATCHES

In the heels are so evidently children of the same family, that, not being able to reap any advantage from their separation, it would be very unfair to part them. Every reader well knows, without information from me, that, in the general *search for cures* in the books gone before upon this subject, they have been most plentifully furnished with remedies, and those very concise too. The whole class of *corrosives, detergents, repellents, and restrungents*, have been let loose, affording ample food to indulge the most extensive *appetite for experiment*. But *modern and experimental practice* abandons this beaten

CRACKS AND SCRATCHES. 61

beaten barren tract of *alum*, *lead*, *vitriol*, *mercury*, and a long list of inveterate poisons, coming immediately to a rational system founded on common observation and long experience.

CRACKS and SCRATCHES, in *nine* cases out of every *ten*, are undoubtedly produced by *negligence* and a *want of care* in the SUPERINTENDENT; and not, as is too frequently supposed, from a bad habit, or an acrimonious state of the blood.

In many stables (particularly where the master seldom pays a visit) so as the carcass is sleek, the feet and heels are left to take care of themselves. From this circumstance in severe weather (when the parts below the fetlock are left in a wet, dirty, and slovenly condition,) do these complaints originate, evidently resulting more from bad grooms than bad habit. It is likewise remarkable that the *mode of treatment* for a century past has been in *direct opposition* to the EFFORTS of NATURE, without the introduction of a single attempt to cooperate in her endeavours. Instead of *corrosive* washes, *detergent* lotions, *repelling* liniments, or *refringent* embrocations, calculated to form rigid

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rigid *eschars*, or painful *collofities*, I shall communicate, and earnestly recommend, a *safe, simple, and effectual* METHOD OF CURE, which I have never yet seen *once* fail in an experience of *twenty* years.

In every *twenty-four* hours, but more particularly at *each* time of the horses returning from the road or exercise, let the CRACKS or SCRATCHES be washed for a considerable time with *soap* and *warm water*, making a lather, and continuing to rub them tenderly with the *suds*, till they become pliable, and perfectly clear from every degree of scurf, or hardness at the edges, and the stiffened mucus, or oozing is entirely washed away; then wipe very dry with a linen cloth, and when perfectly so, rub in a sufficient quantity of *camphorated spermaceti ointment*: there is no doubt but they will soon submit to this simple treatment if regularly persevered in. On the contrary, if in some days after this method has been adopted, you perceive the CRACKS to be deep, the discharge copious, and the smell foetid or stinking, you may naturally conclude there is a foulness in the habit, or an acrimony in the blood, requiring rectification; in that case continue your
washings

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washings with *soap* and *warm water* every night and morning; take away a proportion of blood, according to the directions before given under that head, rubbing in a small quantity of the strong *mercurial ointment*, (instead of the camphorated *spermacæti*,) administering *two* purging balls; and if necessary afterwards a diuretic ball, every other morning for a fortnight, as will be hereafter described, under the article *Grease*, when we come to that subject.

THRUSH,

Commonly called "the *running thrush*," is a varicous state of the frog, which, becoming perforated in different parts, bears the appearance of rapid decay and rottenness; occasioned by an ichorous corrosive discharge, frequently the evident effect of neglect in suffering the horse to go badly shod, till the frog, by repeated bruises, loses its original property and becomes diseased. To *inattention* the complaint is generally owing, and by *early care* is as generally cured. Though there are undoubtedly instances of such defects being what are termed natural blemishes,

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blemishes ; but the mode of treatment will be similar and effective. The putrid, ragged, or rotten part of the frog should be constantly pared away, as should also the hoof that bears upon the defective parts. The bottom of the foot should be frequently washed with warm water, particularly after coming into the stable ; and, when dry, the whole frog moistened slightly with tincture of myrrh. The feet should be constantly stopped with a composition of the following proportion :

Cow dung seven pounds ;

Vinegar and chamber-lye of each one pint.—
Mix.

If the complaint displays a degree of inveteracy, assist with a dozen diuretic balls, as mentioned in the last article, giving one every morning ; or, if the horse is visibly foul, a course of physic is to be preferred, preceded by a moderate bleeding, managing both as directed under the different heads of *bleeding* and *purgings*.

GREASE

G R E A S E.

WE are told by an author of the latest date, what is almost universally understood by those at all acquainted with the animal economy, that “ the blood is conveyed from the heart
 “ to the extremities by the arteries, and returned
 “ by the veins ; in which latter the blood is to
 “ rise in perpendicular columns, to return the
 “ circulating fluids from the extremities. Hence
 “ swellings in the legs of horses may be easily
 “ accounted for, from a partial stagnation of the
 “ blood and juices in the finer vessels, where
 “ the circulation is most languid ; and espe-
 “ cially where there is a want of due exercise,
 “ and a proper muscular compression upon the
 “ vessels to push forward the returning blood,
 “ and propel the inert and half stagnating fluid
 “ through their vessels.” This is one reason
 (where a reason is wanting and must be ob-
 tained), and is quoted entirely for the service
 of those who require *no other*. But, as many
 may wish to receive more satisfactory inform-
 ation upon the subject, it may be necessary to
 afford it a nicer elucidation.

F.

Indeed,

Indeed it cannot be supposed that any reader possessing the smallest degree of rational conception will fall into this ridiculous idea, and implicitly believe NATURE has perverted her own laws, by appropriating to certain offices vessels inadequate to the purposes for which they were formed. That the vessels are small in the extremities must be acknowledged; that the contents are proportional cannot be denied; these positions being admitted it certainly shall follow the less the weight or substance the less must be the force required to give it motion: this force is retained in the contracting power of the vessels acting upon their own contents, exclusive of the assisting muscular compression mentioned by the author above quoted, which (in the system of circulation) can only prove the secondary consideration. I do not mean to enter into tedious and unentertaining disquisitions upon the laws of *nature and motion*, but hope (and naturally conclude) every reader will coincide with me in *one* opinion, that these vessels are as fully adequate to the offices assigned them in the extremities, as those whose capacities have fixed them in the more noble parts.

This

This truth being allowed (as by every intelligent reader it must be), I consider NATURE totally exculpated from the accusation of insufficiency in the execution of her own laws; and doubt not, in the investigation of the subject, we shall be enabled to produce more satisfactory reasons for the appearance and progress of this disease than any we have yet seen offered to public consideration.

That "a partial stagnation of the blood and
"juices in the finer vessels where the circula-
"tion is most languid" may and does happen, I readily admit, but by no means so often as to constitute the disease we now treat of; if so (the extremities in most horses being the same, as well as the circumference or capacity of the vessels and force of circulation), there can be no doubt but nineteen out of every twenty would be afflicted with this malady, from an "ERROR in NATURE," that no human foresight can prevent or judgment remove.

BARTLET (who is the author before alluded to), says, in the passage there quoted, the horses most subject to it are those "where

“there is a due want of exercise.” In compliment to an author of merit and repute, we will admit this for a moment; but the better to establish my own point, I shall claim the privilege of making one *observation* in direct opposition to an assertion that has acquired some authority, by remaining so long uncontradicted. And as I, from the first moment of my embarkation in this treatise, have totally disclaimed the very idea of implicit obedience to the dictation of those who have preceded me on the subject, I now come to the declaration of an opinion directly opposite to what we have just quoted; and (as no bad prelude to what is to follow) wrest the attention of the reader to the following circumstance, well worthy of note. That the horses having the most regular and temperate exercise, food, air, and water, ARE the *very* subjects that are in general more severely afflicted with this disease than any other, no one will attempt to disprove. For instance, those passing under the denomination of “cart horses,” employed in teams, agriculture, road waggons, &c.; and this circumstance alone, if unassisted with other testimony, would very much warp the opinion before—

fore-mentioned, and prove both the vessels and circulation to be less culpable in this business than that writer seemed to imagine.

It is a circumstance known to the most superficial observer, that enormous quantities of hair are permitted to remain upon the heels of *draft horses* of the above description without exception; and it is in vain to expostulate upon the absurdity, by enlarging upon the heat it occasions in summer, or the dirt and filth it harbours in winter. You are told, in return, “ of its utility in preventing injuries from flints, “ bruises from stones,” &c. this is the evident effect of instinctive obstinacy and ignorance, transmitted from sire to son; and is one of the most palpable reasons that can be produced for the frequent appearance and progress of this complaint, whether proceeding originally from a hidden accumulation of external nastiness or internal impurity.

As I mean however to give the explanation of this disease the face of novelty, I shall hint only at the impossibility of removing, from under the loads of hair just described, the quantity

of dirt and extraneous matter that must inevitably lodge there, and continue to accumulate without even a probability of extirpation; and proceed to hazard an opinion, or perhaps a fact, that the proportion of secreted perspirable matter, making its efforts here (as elsewhere) for a natural discharge, is obstructed by the mass of filth caked upon the surface, as before explained; and becomes, in the course of time, too *viscid* and *substantial* to be again absorbed and carried into the circulation. This is palpably the state of the case, and NATURE, said by BARTLET to be deficient in her own office, is not so but upon compulsion; the constant flow of perspirable matter to the parts so evidently obstructed, totally overpower every effort of nature; and, from the accumulation of matter, the vessels certainly become inadequate to the task of conveying TREBLE the proportion for which they were intended: the extremities being by these means overloaded and distended, the contents not only become, from their stagnation, *putrid* and *corrosive*, but at length, by their *acrimonious* quality, perforate the integuments in a *fætid ichor*; and, by a peculiar sharpness in its cutaneous oozing, gives a *callosity*

lofity or *hardnefs* to the edges of the apertures, fmall as they are, conftituting, in this difeafe, a greater or lefs degree of inveteracy, according to the ftate and temperament of the blood at the time of attack.

The diforder having once made its appearance will, in its progrefs, beyond every admiffion of doubt, be almoft entirely regulated by the favourable or unfavourable ftate of the habit, which muft now be more minutely inquired into. But as it appears very little amongst horfes of the firft or fecond clafs, appropriated to either turf or field, and is confined chiefly to thofe before described, or fuch as are unluckily deftined to a hard road, and a *harder* mafter, fall in for a much greater proportion of WORK than CARE; I avail myfelf of this additional obfervation to corroborate my former affertion, or opinion, that this complaint frequently originates much more in the *ill humours* of the groom than the HORSE; to which the careleffnefs and inattention of the mafter does not fometimes a little contribute.

But as an ancient adage instructs us to believe "There is no rule without an exception," so I am willing to admit the exception, and allow that a *viscidit*y or *tenacit*y in the blood may engender *foulness*; and *impurities* may be produced by omitting to correct and purify *acrimony* on the one part, or a *sluggish cohesi*on on the other. Collections of matter may be formed, and are undoubtedly the EFFORTS of NATURE to disburthen herself of the *morbid affecti*on; and she, most wisely, makes those efforts as remote as possible from the vital principle of action, and in the parts best qualified to bear the operation.

Thus much produced to inculcate the doctrine of the disease, let us endeavour to establish (contrary to the custom of a century past) the most rational and least objectionable mode of obtaining relief in cases of so much pain and trouble. So soon as the attack is discovered, or the appearance of disease is ascertained, let blood be taken away with a proper reference to the directions given under that head; letting your quantity be proportioned to the size, state, and strength of your horse; and
so

so soon as the blood is cold, let an examination be made of its state, and proceed accordingly. If you find the BLOOD is firmly coagulated with a small proportion of serum or liquid, that the crassamentum, or mass, is livid, with a coat of size, or gelatinized matter, upon the surface, you may immediately conclude there is too great a tenacity and adhesion in the BLOOD for the office of circulation through the smaller vessels; and that such quality has contributed to the cause of obstruction under which the subject is discovered to labour. If the disease is in its earliest state, and does not seem to indicate rapid *signs of inveteracy*; and the horse is not remarkably *foul* or out of *condition*, it may probably submit to the mildest method of treatment; as for instance, let the parts affected be *well washed twice* every day with *soft* water made warm, and plentifully impregnated with *soap*, so as to form a substantial lather; with which every defective or offensive spot should be most patiently rubbed so as to clear the surface of all scurf, scabs, or indurated matter; then *wipe* the parts gently *dry* with a linen cloth; and so soon as well dried,

dried, wash where necessary with as much as is requisite of the following LOTION :

Take tincture of myrrh and camphorated spirits of wine, each one ounce ;

Of best white wine vinegar and spring water, each two ounces.—Mix together ;

And when well dried in slightly rub over with a small quantity of the following OINTMENT :

TAKE of white diachylon plaster and olive oil of each three ounces, melt together over the fire ; then keep stirring till cold, and mix upon a stone with three drachms of the sugar of lead, first powdered very fine in a mortar.

And let ONE of the following DIURETIC BALLS be given every other morning for a course of one dozen : but if the horse is evidently gross in habit, and foul in excrement, this course must be preceded by two doses of physic, prepared according to his strength and condition, from some of those prescribed under the directions for purging. See page 21.

DIURETIC

D I U R E T I C B A L L S.

Take of Castile, or best Bristol soap, twelve ounces;

Yellow rosin and nitre in powder, each eight ounces;

Camphire in powder one ounce;

Oil of Juniper six drachms;

Mix with as much syrup or honey as required, and divide into a dozen balls, and roll up in liquorice or aniseed powder.

If the disease is farther advanced and displays a palpable inveteracy, the parts considerably enlarged, and the discharge both foetid in smell and copious in quantity, (the *blood* being as before described,) bleed again in four or five days; giving in two days, or three at most, *one* of the PURGING BALLS, adding of *mercurius dulcis*, (commonly called calomel) two drachms; working it off as before described, and using every precaution to avoid cold: at the expiration of four or five clear days repeat the *purging ball*, adding or diminishing (that is changing the number),
so

so as to render it effectual in respect to strength. In three days after the setting of which second dose, begin a *course* of the above DIURETIC BALLS, and let *one* be given every morning for a fortnight, three weeks, or month, as may be found necessary. The washing with the solution of soap in warm water to be regularly and substantially repeated *twice* every day; the parts to be *fomented* after each washing with *flannels* dipped into a hot decoction of *cammomile*, *wormwood*, *marshmallows* and *rosemary*, for a quarter of an hour or more; and this to be followed, if necessary, by the application of a POULTICE prepared with equal parts of *rye meal* and *oatmeal*; with *garlick* and *white lily root*, of each two ounces; both beat to a paste, and all mixed together to a proper consistence, with a part of the decoction prepared for the fomentation, and then stir in a quarter of a pound of *lard*, and apply as warm as may be with safety.

On the contrary, if circumstances should not be so severe as to require the *poultice*, the following OINTMENT may be plentifully applied after the fomentation (when rubbed dry); or, in worse cases, when the poultice is left off:

Take

Take ointment of elder four ounces;

Camphire, powdered, and molified with a little olive oil, six drachms;

Of liquid laudanum, and extract of Saturn, each two drachms;

Mix well together, and keep close stopped for use.

But when the case is so obstinate as to bear no signs of submission either in a reduction of the discharge, or a decrease of the swelling, let longitudinal and transverse *scarifications* be made superficially with a fleam, in number and distance proportioned to the distension of the parts, (or inveteracy of appearance), so as to insure a plentiful *discharge* of *blood* and *sanies*. Immediately after the discharge, apply a poultice very warm, and sufficiently large to cover all the parts, compounded of the following ingredients:

TAKE of coarse brown bread and boiled turnips equal parts, and mash well over the fire; adding a sufficient quantity of stale strong beer, to give it a proper consistence; and stir in of best flour of mustard one ounce, turpentine two ounces, linseed powder three ounces, and lard six ounces, or sufficient to keep it from getting too stiff.

This

This must be continued night and morning till a change in appearance renders a *variation in treatment* necessary, regulating the use of purgatives or diuretics by the face of disease, and the discretion of the *prescriber, farrier, or gooom*; adopting such choice of the various methods pointed out as may rationally appear most applicable to the state and changes of the subject. During the whole progress of cure such proportion of *gentle motion* or *exercise* should be adopted as the nature and circumstances of the disease will bear: and the horse, if at a proper season of the year, be turned out to enjoy the advantages of gradual and voluntary motion, so soon as his state will admit, first observing however mild or severe this disease may have been. So soon as the discharge has declined, its foetidity (or offensive smell) is subdued, and the swelling totally subsided, the cure may be completed by well *washing* the parts with equal proportions of *soap lees* and *good vinegar*, once every day, occasionally moistening with a small quantity of the *ointment* above-mentioned, compounded of *diachylon plaster, olive oil, and sugar of lead*, page 74.

Having

Having treated largely upon that degree of foulness termed GREASE, originating in a palpable combination of neglect and nastiness, strengthened by internal grossness and viscosity of blood, with the various methods of treatment adapted to each distinct stage of disease, let us revert to the same disease, formed by a very distinct and separate cause, where, from the kind of horse and the care constantly taken, we are instantly *convinced* it must *arise* from an acrimonious state of the blood and juices, or an hereditary retention or taint from SIRE or DAM.

In this case the first step to cure must be the same as with the other; that is, bleed to a proper quantity, according to the state of your subject: if he is *full* of flesh, *high* in condition, and has had no *forced* evacuations for a length of time, take sufficient in proportion to strength: if the symptoms are powerful and threaten obstinacy, give him a *couple* of the following PURGING BALLS six days apart. The management being strictly regulated by
the

the *directions* given under the *article of purging*, page 22.

Take succotrine aloes nine drachms;
Æthiop's mineral and Castile soap, of each half
an ounce;
Jalap two drachms;
Ginger one drachm;
Oil of juniper forty drops;
Syrup of buckthorn sufficient to make the ball.

If this proportion does not purge quite so much as desired, add another *drachm of aloes*; if on the contrary it is thought to relax too much, take off a drachm of the jalap. In four days after the last dose begin with one of the following BALLS, and repeat it *every* morning for fifteen days, three weeks, or a month, as the urgency or mildness of the case may require.

Take of antimony finely levigated, sulphur, nitre, and Æthiop's mineral, each three ounces;
Castile soap ten ounces;
Oil of juniper three drachms;
Syrup or honey sufficient to make the mass, which divide into a dozen balls, rolling them in liquorice or aniseed powder.

This

G R E A S E. 81

This disease has been so fully explained, and every method of cure so minutely entered into, that the reader can be at no loss for farther instructions under this head, having such a variety of prescriptions to assist his endeavours if he will but industriously exert his judgment on the occasion.

C L A S S III.

HIDEBOUND, SURFEIT, MANGE,
AND FARCY.

H I D E B O U N D

Is a subject that has hitherto been very little treated of, and by no means at all satisfactorily. It has been attributed to many causes, but, from every observation I have been able to make, I must confine it to few. The signs are, a want of flexibility in the skin, which is pervaded by a general stiffness that seems to form an entire adhesion to the flesh, without the least partial separation or distinction. There is a kind of dusty scurf, plainly perceived underneath the hair, that raises it up in different parts; and, giving it another hue, the coat in many places forms an appearance of two or three colours; conveying, even in
this

this trifling circumstance, *a very forcible idea* of POVERTY in both *food* and *raiment*. He is generally languid, dull, heavy, and weak; his excrement is dark, foul, and offensive; he sweats much upon very moderate exertion; then his coat stares, the hair turns different ways, (which in its effluvia is disagreeable,) and affords evident proof of weakness and debilitation. The cause requires very little animadversion, as it bears the face of *poverty* (in food and attention) upon every trait of its countenance.

Bad food and want of *stable care* are, in general, the only probable reasons that can be assigned for this complaint, or defect. Long lank grass, in low swampy land in autumn, and musty hay or bad oats at any season, may in some degree allay the hunger, but not gratify the appetite; for, being in itself destitute of the effect and quality of superior food, no nutritive contribution can be conveyed for the generating of blood or formation of flesh. The sources for the supply of chyle being thus obstructed, the lymphatics are deprived of their due proportion of nutritive fluid that should pass through these smaller vessels, and

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they

they become not only in some measure contracted, but in a great degree inactive, which, with the want of proper external care and dressing, contribute to an almost universal obstruction of the cutaneous pores. These, from the preternatural debilitation of the general system, are compulsively thrown open upon the most moderate exercise, when a horse that is (from excellent food, care, and attention) in what is termed good condition will not display the least moisture upon his skin, even in undergoing a much greater proportion of fatigue.

Thus much is introduced to prove its existence as an original complaint, probably caused by these means, when abstracted from its consideration as a symptomatic attendant upon any other. And when that is really the case, by effectually removing the cause, the effect will cease; or, in other words, cure the disease on which it is an attendant, and you will of course get rid of its concomitant likewise. In respect to its *cure* very little instruction will be necessary, for (under judicious management) it is hardly intitled to the appellation of *disease*, being in fact no more than
a temporary

a temporary inconvenience. Therefore, by way of affording some little change to the circulation of the blood, take away a small quantity, and in three or four hours after increase its *impetus* by a mash of malt, oats, and bran, equal parts; continuing it every night for a fortnight, stirring in two ounces of flour of brimstone every other night; giving his other feeds (morning and noon) equal parts of oats and bran, with half a pint of old beans in each, to prevent relaxing the body too much by the mashes. To give this method of cure some certainty of success, regular and substantial dressing, air, exercise, sound oats, sweet hay, and good soft water, will greatly contribute. And when by these means he has visibly improved in hide, coat, and condition, let him have twice in a week a brushing gallop, to produce a tolerable sweat and enliven the circulation; taking great care not to let him stand still till he is perfectly cool; when his dressings should be thoroughly gone through with attention, care, and perseverance every night and morning. If this method should be unattended with success, there must be some unknown cause lurking behind; in which case go through a mild course of physic,

feeding well between the doses, or a regular administration of diuretics, as described in the last class, p. 75.

S U R F E I T.

THIS word has been the constant friend and frequent resource of all country Farriers, and may with great truth be termed "The Farrier's *Vade Mecum*," abridged to a word of two syllables, for the convenience of technical explanation and vulgar comprehension. For certainly so soon as a cutaneous eruption appears, indicating an acrimonious state of the blood, or a degeneracy of habit, it is (with a wonderful degree of sagacity, and almost incredible penetration,) confidently pronounced "A SURFEIT;" but what a *surfeit* is, unless as *Captain Le Brush*, in the *Register Office*, defined *chaos* to be "a sort of—a, kind of "a—*chaos*;" they silently acknowledge *they cannot tell*. And what makes it the more unfortunate for them is, that *Bartlet*, the great "god of their idolatry," to whom they look for every information, omitted to give them the least clue by which they might gloss their ignorance.

ignorance. "For," says he, *in toto*, "surfeits
 "arises from various causes: but are com-
 "monly the effects of *some* diseases not at-
 "tended to, or that have been ill cured."
 Whether this can be called an elucidation, or
 is entitled to the compliment of "*multum in*
"parvo," I leave to the discerning reader,
 anxious for instruction; and gladly submit to
 his *impartial* decision alone whether we are
 not likely to derive greater gratification to our
 inquiries from a more minute investigation?

As the before mentioned writer has been
 indulgently *concise*, another has been most
tediously prolix, who, after taking a trip through
 almost every KNOWN disease, *feeling* for the
 cause, plainly tells you "it may originate in
 "ALL or ANY; but it most commonly pro-
 "ceeds from a horse's constantly feeding till
 "he can feed no longer." We thank him
 heartily for such very USEFUL *information*;
 and proceed to our own part of the task, but
 not without the necessary compliment of
 making one observation upon *his*. That it is
 very natural to suppose a horse constantly sup-
 plied with food, even to satiety, must be *fat*,
 (at least in tolerable condition,) whereas on

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the

the contrary it is universally seen that horses, labouring under the disease known by the appellation of SURFEIT, are generally *poor*.

There is no rational unprejudiced man living who will not most cheerfully subscribe his opinion to a fair investigation and demonstration of TRUTH, rather than every *fallacious conjecture* that may be forcibly seized on by a POST HASTE *author*, impatient to arrive at the goal of his undertaking.

Of SURFEITS then there are two kinds, originating from different causes, one being no more than a very advanced stage of the case last described; which being long neglected, continues to increase, with *all its symptoms* before mentioned, till the entire *mass of blood* being at last *affected*, displays itself upon the surface of the body with a degree of virulence that forcibly appeals to the *sensations* of the owner; and *necessity*, by the plea of SELF-INTEREST, prompts him to yield in his own defence what the dictates of *humanity* had in vain *endeavoured to obtain*. This I consider one *embellishment* to the FARRIER'S abstruse abridgment; to which I shall add an additional definition

definition of this disease, that has for ages occasioned infinite *looks of surprize* and *exertions of wisdom*, when invoking the interposition of *Minerva* or *Somnus*, to elucidate a matter that even their IMMACULATE *Bartlet* did not condescend to explain. And as his *great* predecessor (who he has most incessantly and implicitly copied), after ringing the changes upon almost EVERY disease, fixed his opinion of the cause upon “immoderate feeding;” I shall avail myself of the privilege afforded me in the ancient adage of “*Doctors differ*,” and declare I attribute the *cause* to HARD DRINKING. And although he declined saying much in favour of HIS opinion, I shall not omit to advance a thesis in confirmation of MINE.

This *kind* of *surfeit* differing from the former in *cause*, but very little in *effect*, is that kind where, from *ignorance*, *intoxication*, or *inattention*, a horse is suffered to drink immoderately of *cold* water, when in a violent *perspiration*, and the blood consequently in the highest degree of circulation.

The *shock* nature sustains by this *revulsion* will be instantly conceived, even by a mind
not

not at all accustomed to search into the abstruse recesses of nature. The blood, in its greatest velocity, is so *instantaneously* checked by the *styptic influence* of the *frigid* element, and the sudden contraction of the solids, that the CRASSAMENTUM, or balsamic part of the blood, becomes immediately thickened and inflamed, separating itself from the serum or watery part, which (being, from the inflammatory particles, impregnated with its proportion of acrimony) extravasates itself; and, by an *effort* of nature, is propelled to the skin for transpiration, where the pores (having been instantly collapsed at the time of the water's taking effect) are so closely obstructed that its *passage* to the surface is absolutely *prevented* and rendered *impracticable*. Thus fixed, it becomes united with the *perspirable matter* already confined there (forming a morbid combination); and is, in the course of time, compelled by the progress of internal inflammation to make its way through the skin; upon which it at last appears in a variety of FORMS and different SYMPTOMS, assuming distinct degrees of malignancy, according to the *state, habit, and constitution* of the subject at the time of attack,

This

This being the exact PHYSICAL demonstration and regular *process* of the *disease*, the indications of cure aptly arise from our investigation. For instance, to resolve the inflammatory crudities, remove cutaneous obstruction, correct the acrimonious state of the blood, and gently quicken the circulation. The better to effect these, take away a *moderate* portion of blood, that the impetus may be encouraged; open the body with a few *warm masbes*; and, according to the mildness or inveteracy of its appearance, give (as the case requires) either *two* or *three* of the following PURGING BALLS, allowing sufficient time between each dose, and exerting more than usual precaution to avoid cold, on account of the mercurial preparation contained in its composition; though it is not only remarkably gentle in the operation, but small in quantity, and may be administered with the greatest safety and effect:

Take Barbadoes aloes one ounce;

Jalap in powder three drachms;

Mercurius dulcis, alias calomel, cream of tartar, Castile soap, and ginger (in powder) of each two drachms;

Syrop of buckthorn sufficient to make the ball.

After

After the course of *physic* is regularly gone through, and properly conducted, let strict attention be paid to the very necessary *directions* of FOOD, dressings, water, &c. given under the last article of "HIDEBOUND;" and in three days after the last dose of *physic* begin the following course of ALTERATIVES, persevering for a month with unremitting punctuality, if you wish to succeed in the acquisition of events fully enumerated in the indications of cure:

Take of antimony levigated and flour of sulphur, each half a pound;

Æthiop's mineral and cream of tartar, each four ounces.

Mix well together, and divide into *twelve* equal parts of two ounces each, giving one every night with the feed of corn; which being first *sprinkled* with water, will retain the powders and insure their consumption. Two ounces of *nitre* must be given every morning in a pail of *soft* water, and continued during the whole time of giving the powders. Should any trifling eschars, scabs or excoriations, prove obstinate upon any part of the body, they may be washed with equal parts of lye (procured from the soap boilers) and lime water. After a regular continuation of the above proportions, should

should no considerable advantages appear, the doses must be gradually increased of each, from *two* ounces to *two and an half*; and in another week to *three* ounces for each dose, of both the composition and the nitre.

M A N G E.

THIS distemper is so universally known that a general description of its most predominant features would be a very indifferent compliment both to the time and understanding of the reader; suffice it therefore to say, a mere superficial view of it instantly conveys to the spectator a very strong idea of general wretchedness. For surely nothing can convey it *stronger* than EXHAUSTED NATURE sinking under a *complication* of *disease* and *poverty*. And in this case so true it is, one misfortune *seldom* comes *alone*, that the latter seems in combination to go hand in hand with this distemper wherever it makes an appearance. And as a proof of the truth in this observation, it is very little seen amongst HORSES of any ESTIMATION; on the contrary, is almost entirely confined to the lowest class of stables and proprietors.

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It is observed to fall *chiefly* upon those that have been almost *strangers* to the TASTE of *oats*, and are kept entirely on the *refuse* of provender, *barren* pasture, *musty* hay, *separated* haybands, *swampy* mossy ground, or *rusky* moors; from all which NATURE may receive a wretched EXISTENCE, but cannot be furnished with *support*; at least the support necessary to contribute nutritive juices for the constant healthy subsistence of so large a frame. From this mode of living (or rather starving) originates so severe and inveterate a disease; the economy and law of NATURE *demonstrates* it to a certainty, and renders farther ANIMADVERSION upon the subject *tedious* and *unnecessary*. For the *blood* being by this *barren* contribution robbed of what it was by nature intended to receive, becomes *impoverished* even to a degree of incredibility (by those who are unacquainted with the system of repletion and circulation); it loses its *tenacity* and *balsamic adhesive* quality, degenerating to an acrid ferous vapour that acquires malignity by its preternatural separation from its original *corrector*. Thus extravasated and unrestrained its *morbid* effects and virulence soon display themselves upon the surface, with a severe
and

and constant IRRITATION OF ITCHING; to allay which, the poor *beast* is eternally exerting himself in perpetual *rubblings*, till with those, and the loss of hair from the different parts, he bears the *universal* appearance of approaching EXCORIATION. In this predicament it has been the constant practice to get rid of ONE *devil* by the application of MANY; for instance, *quicksilver*, *aqua fortis*, *oil of vitriol*, *corrosive mercury*, *spirit of turpentine*, *sulphur of vivum*, *sal armoniac*, *tar*, *train oil*, and all the *combustibles* that could well be invented for the support of an everlasting *conflagration* in the lower regions.

Without enlarging upon this *desperate* mode of PRACTICE, I shall only acknowledge it brings to my memory a passage from that justly celebrated writer who says

“Where the greater malady is, the lesser is not felt.”

And I naturally conclude from the purport of this sentence, their *mode* of practice was *adopted* to extirpate an itching by a course of cauterization; and there is no doubt but a poor devil would feel very little *uneasiness* from a *cutaneous* irritation when *burning alive* with a combination of the most powerful CAUSTICS. That THESE PRESCRIPTIONS were in full practice

practice upon the principle of "kill or cure" no one will deny; for, as *Gibson* says, when he speaks of the internal administration of corrosive mercury, or other POISONS, "the horse must have a very strong constitution to recover it:" and I will, in OPPOSITION to the *confidence* and *self-sufficiency* of ANY FARRIER in the kingdom, declare the above course of unction (and *extreme unction* it certainly is) has sent more HORSEFLESH to the different *dog-kennels* than the disease itself. That the poor distressed and emaciated subjects may in future be in some degree RESCUED from such a *dreadful* scene of unmerited MISERY and PERSECUTION, such methods are *pointed out* as will certainly *eradicate* the disease, with proper attention and punctuality, unless it has been suffered by a long and *neglected* continuance to assume a degree of *inveteracy*; if so, and the horse is not of great value, I will venture to hazard an IRICISM, and assure the owner that the most merciful, certain, and least expensive CURE will be by instantly *cutting his throat*, or *shooting him through the*

The first step to be taken is a constant supply of WARM *masbes*, prepared with half
malt

malt and half *bran*; or equal parts of *oats* and *bran*, with *four* ounces of *honey* dissolved in each; let these be given night and morning, with a feed of *dry corn* every day at noon. During this treatment (which must be continued a week, to sheath the acrimony and soften the rigidity of the skin) give one ounce of sulphur in each mash, and one ounce of nitre in water every night and morning. In a week or ten days, when the frame becomes more invigorated, *discontinue* the mashes, and let the diet be changed to *good oats* and *sweet hay*; giving, in the morning and evening feeds, one of the following POWDERS intermixed with the corn, first sprinkled with water:

TAKE sulphur and prepared antimony, of each a pound; rub well together in a mortar, and divide in twenty-four equal parts.

Upon first taking the subject in hand, and previous to the commencement of the mashes, procure a pail of warm water, and a quarter of a pound of soft soap (tied up in a linen rag); and with this let every infected part be thoroughly washed and cleansed, by forming

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a substantial

a substantial lather, so that no scurf or filth remains upon the surface; then rub tenderly dry with a coarse cloath or separated haybands; and on the following morning begin to rub in a necessary portion of this OINTMENT, and repeat it for seven, ten days, or a fortnight, (as the urgency of symptoms may require) upon every part affected:

TAKE of the weak mercurial ointment half a pound;

Sulphur vivum four ounces;

White hellebore in powder, three ounces;

Black pepper in powder, and oil of tartar, each one ounce;

Olive oil as much as necessary to make it sufficiently soft.

Continue the use of the powders before mentioned, with the nitre also, for three weeks or a month; and so soon as it is conceived by the horse's condition he is in a state to bear it, take away a moderate portion of blood, and give him afterwards *two* very mild *doses* of *physic*, selected from the *prescriptions* under the article of *purging*, and this will be the more necessary, for reasons that cannot require the least explanation.

F A R C Y

F A R C Y.

I must confess I have heard, seen, and read, less to prove satisfactory upon this distemper than any other to which the horse is subject. Every writer has described the symptoms, but no author, farrier, or groom, has ascertained the cause. Their opinions upon the subject forming a very great similitude to *Scrub's* allusion in the comedy, where he says "Some say one thing, and some say another; but, for my part, I believe he's a Jesuit." This is strictly the state of the case with the FARCY; some attribute it to one cause, some to another; most declare it a bad cause, and all acknowledge the "FAULT" (as usual) to be in the *blood*.

That they are right must be admitted; and that they are so is the less extraordinary, when a very superficial survey of the case will evidently prove it would be a difficult task to be wrong. One author gives us many pages replete with *figurative* descriptions, and runs through the whole animal mechanism to de-

monstrate the cause very clearly, but unluckily never draws nearer the point than to prove what a writer of more modern authority LEARNEDLY tells us in *two* lines, that “the “ *true* FARCY is properly a distemper of the “ blood vessels, which generally follows the “ track of the veins.” What infinite satisfaction must it afford every reader, to be informed from the fountain-head of instruction, that “ the blood vessels generally follow the track “ of the veins!” *Anxious* for information, and *open* to conviction, I receive the intelligence with gratitude; and although my retentive faculties are deceptive and imperfect, I shall exert their utmost influence to preserve, in high esteem, so excellent a *monitor*; making no doubt but it will prove highly satisfactory to the CURIOUS to be informed they need not *look* for a distemper of the blood vessels in the “TRACK” of the intestines. But to pursue this vein of irony no farther, and come to the subject in discussion, let it be observed that, from the beginning of this class, we have had occasion to ENLARGE so much upon the *acrimony*, *viscosity*, *putridity*, and *tenacity* of the *blood*, under the separate articles of HIDEBOUND, SURFEIT, and MANGE,
it

it is but natural to conclude, the intelligent reader is by this time enabled to form a competent judgment of it's circulation, qualities, dispositions, and effects : from rules so clear and explanatory, the system is absolutely reduced to the most minute demonstration, and cannot possibly be misunderstood.

Every reader being by these means put into possession of such reasons as may tend to form *his* own opinion, perhaps it may be the most prudent to say nothing peremptorily decisive upon the matter, but introduce *my* opinion, leaving each observer open to an exertion of his own judgment, to which of the three preceding distempers this is allied ; or whether it bears the least similitude to the severity of the whole. It would be a very indifferent compliment to the patience of the enlightened reader to repeat the technical jargon that was unavoidably necessary to explain the original causes of *grease*, *hidebound*, *surfeit*, or *mange*. An hypothetical explanation of the nature and origin of this complaint, would be to go over the same ground, introducing the same law of nature in the system of circulation ; the conveyance of chyle by the lymphatics or small

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vessels,

vessels, for the generating of blood, the partial coagulation of the crassamentum, and its consequent effects; as obstruction, putrefaction, and the appearances that follow upon different parts of the body, or in general over the whole, That this DISEASE has its different stages or degrees of malignity according to the *state, habit, blood, age, keep, and condition* of the horse, is certain; but generally that circumstance is misunderstood, and the different degrees of the distemper are supposed to constitute distinct kinds of the same disease.

That the distemper *originates* in an inflammatory state of blood in the first instance, gradually increasing to the greatest pitch of acrimony, and affecting the system by degrees, till the whole mass is corrupted, is too evidently clear to admit of a doubt. The gradual and general affection of the frame may be easily reconciled to any comprehension, by the idea of a single spark of fire giving life to a combination of combustibles that soon constitute a general flame. To say the FARCY is or can be long partial to any particular spot is a very ridiculous supposition; for although the attack may be *local*, (the cause being inflammatory) it
must

must soon be *universal* from the very nature of the circulation. Certain solid parts of the body may be individually affected by inflammation, but we naturally infer, from a knowledge of the circulation, one part of the blood cannot imbibe a temporary affection without a speedy communication to the whole.

If, as it has been before observed, “the *Farcy*” is a distemper of the blood vessels,” I cannot indulge a momentary doubt but such distemper in the vessels must have received the full force of disease from the acrimonious state of the blood itself; which, by its accumulating force and morbid pungency, soon exceeds the bounds prescribed by nature, making its way to the surface, by a corrosion of the vessels in which it was contained. The coat is raised in different parts (as they become affected) with various small prominences, bearing the appearance of bunches of berries, branching off in direct uniformity with the veins. Soon after their appearance they are generally covered with a small scab or eschar, which, as they advance to maturation, peel off, and the pustules discharge a sharp ferous ichor, or a gelatinous, adhesive, putrid matter, forming ulcers of a

more or less inveterate appearance, according to the degree of disease,

Previous to the present improved and rational system of cure, it may be applicable to introduce one of the promised OBSERVATIONS upon the dangerous and almost obsolete practice of others, or rather the most *cruel* experiments and *infernal* persecutions that were ever invented or could be supposed to enter into the mind of man, for the prevention or cure of disease. In the last article treated on we produced a *tolerable* system of cruelty; but in the FARCY (as a more perplexing disease and greater excitement to judgment or madness) we have FIRE UPON FIRE, or effectual cauterization *treble* refined.

As they advanced in danger they increased in courage; and adhering invariably to the general intention of "*kill or cure*," they dealt about them with the fire of Mars and the strength of Hercules. Began with oil of vitriol and oil of turpentine; then euphorbium, hellebore, quicksilver, oil of origanum, double aqua fortis; and, to sum up the whole scene of *consistency*, made open passages with small
hot

hot irons, and touched with oil of vitriol or aqua fortis; or, opening the buds, put in a small quantity of corrosive mercury, arsenic, or Roman vitriol and sublimate, equal quantities. But, says the writer, "let it be remembered that many a horse has been *poisoned* " by these medicines ignorantly used, and in " too large quantities." This very acknowledgment (for which I confess I am under infinite obligations) will serve to corroborate my former assertion, that some SYSTEM has long been necessary to *rescue* this most useful and suffering animal

FROM STABULARIAN IGNORANCE AND EMPIRICAL CONFIDENCE.

Can it be supposed, will reason or reflection for a moment support the idea, that the most severe and burning caustics, very little short of actual fire, were ever calculated, when laid on by loads, to rectify the blood, or promote an incarnation of the flesh? It must create astonishment in every mind made calm by time, or cool by experience, that men have lived, who, from a want of knowledge in the properties of medicines, could so prostitute their uses; or others prove so weak as to transmit that prostitution to posterity! But so deeply has the

the injurious and dangerous system taken root among the illiterate, who stick to a rustic maxim never to be obliterated, that "old laws, old times, old songs, and old books, are best," and consequently fly to the latter upon every occasion; in whose instructions they have so much faith, and to whose contents they pay such implicit obedience, that the very DEVIL, however great his influence may be in other respects, will never prevail upon that class to change their system.

That MERCURIALS and ANTIMONIALS *internally*, with necessary and occasional caustics *externally*, will (dictated by judgment, and proportioned with discretion) work wonders, experience and indefatigable attention from men of the most extensive abilities has sufficiently proved. But the abundant, unlimited, and injudicious application of such destructive *poisons*, either externally or internally, no reason can justify, or prudence direct. And what confirms it a danger of still greater magnitude is, the predominant desire to increase the doses and applications, upon a most contemptible but very common supposition; "if a small or even
" a moderate

“ a moderate dose does much, a large one will
“ CERTAINLY do a great deal more,”

The very frequent application of caustics and repellents, is a custom evidently too absurd to require animadversion. Every common observer must instantly perceive the folly of repelling a morbid and malignant putrid matter to be again absorbed into the circulation, at the very time nature has arrived at the critical effort of relieving herself from the morbid affection or preternatural load with which she is oppressed. To prevent therefore a misconception, let it be once for all understood, that in diseases of the blood or juices, however externals may occasionally alleviate as auxiliaries, the very fountain of relief must take its course from the effect of medicines internally administered. But sorry I am to believe, and have every reason to declare, penury on the one side, and a want of common humanity on the other, has in general countenanced and promoted the burning practice formerly adopted; a few ounces of oil of vitriol, turpentine, aqua fortis, or a RED HOT IRON, being, in the difference of expence, much more applicable to the constitution of the POCKET than a *regular* course of alteratives.

These

These observations being made to point out the danger and deter the practice, more than to condemn the authors, who, to their exculpation be it remembered, wrote in times of less refinement, I shall conclude them for this class with one REMARK—That where the cure is not to be effected by the course of bleeding, purging, mercurials, antimonials, and alteratives hereafter described, I perfectly coincide in opinion with a writer before quoted, who says “When the disease is so inveterate as to resist every application, that the symptoms not only continue predominant, but evidently increase, it is incurable.” And to this information I suspect he meant (but omitted) to recommend what I now most heartily do, the putting a period to a scene of pain and misery, by taking away a life that every degree of assiduity and effort of art cannot render worthy preservation.

In respect to cure, upon the very earliest appearance take away blood in quantity as before described; and after so doing attend minutely to the quality, which circumstance will enable you to form a very decisive judgment how soon, and to what proportion, the subject

subject will bear this evacuation, should it again be necessary; for, according to the extra proportion of the *crassamentum*, or *coagulum*, and the size (or gelatinized substance upon the surface), with the disproportion of the serum, or watery part, it may be very readily ascertained how much the blood is certainly *above* or *below* the standard of mediocrity necessary for the absolute PRESERVATION of *health*. If the horse is in a high state of condition and full of flesh, give him mashes through the day of bleeding, and the next; on the following morning let this *purging ball* be given:

Take succotrine aloes ten drachms;

Of calomel and jalap in powder, each two drachms and a half;

Rhubarb and ginger of each one drachm and a half;

Syrup of buckthorn or roses sufficient to form the ball.

Let it be carefully attended to, and worked off as specified under the direction for purging. If the physic works favourably and sets well, let his feed (if his appetite is keen) for four clear days, be plentiful; and on the fifth, or sixth at farthest, repeat his *purging ball*, conducting

ducting the operation as before. If the distemper has attacked him with violence, or makes rapid progress; a third dose must be given in like manner; on the contrary, if the disease is mild, and early discovered, the two may do. In two days after your course of physic is completed begin upon the following *antimonial alteratives*, assisted by a regular administration of nitre; both being continued a month without the most trifling intermission:

Take of prepared antimony one pound;
Common sulphur twelve ounces;
Cream of tartar eight ounces;
Cinnaber of antimony six ounces.

Incorporate well in a mortar, and divide into *twenty* equal parts, giving ONE every night in the corn, first sprinkling with water to insure its adhesion; giving two ounces of nitre in the water every morning, at which time he will generally drink it with the greater avidity, as being most thirsty. This proportion is meant for the distemper in its mildest state; when the buds or swellings, upon their first appearance,

appearance, may be well washed with the following *lotion* twice every day :

Take extract of Saturn two ounces ;
Camphorated spirits of wine eight ounces ;
Distilled vinegar a pint.—Mix well together and keep close stopp'd for use.

Should the distemper be in a more advanced or inveterate stage, bleeding should be repeated, in proper time, between the physic in a moderate degree ; and upon the scabs or eschars peeling from the buds, with a degree of inveterate malignity, wash them well occasionally with the following :

Take corrosive mercury two drachms, dissolve in half a pint of British brandy ; then add of white wine vinegar a pint ; half a pint of spring water, and two ounces of tincture of myrrh ; shaking well together ;

Or,

Take sugar of lead and white vitriol each one ounce ;

Distilled vinegar and spring water each one pint ;
Styptic tincture three ounces.—Mix together.

Should the ulcers continue foul, and their edges becomes callous, very small quantities of the strong mercurial ointment must be gently rubbed

rubbed into the centre of the most inveterate, once in three or four days, cleansing them occasionally with one of the washes before mentioned. In this case one of the following *mercurial* ALTERATIVE BALLS must be given regularly every morning for a month, or longer, if necessary; altering your proportion of nitre to three ounces; which must in the arrangement of this course, be given in the water every evening, upon the visible necessity of introducing your ball in the morning.

Take Æthiop's mineral four ounces;

Of milk of brimstone, prepared antimony, cream of tartar, and cinnaber of antimony, each five ounces;

Honey sufficient to make a mass; divide into a dozen equal balls, and roll up in liquorice or aniseed powder.

These remedies are founded upon a system of certainty to effect all that *alteratives* can do; and are directed in such proportions as may be given with the greatest safety, and calculated to bear some additions to their more active ingredients, at the discretion of the prescriber, should an unexpected resistance render it necessary. And upon the introduction of such additions,

additions, and a perseverance in the alteration for a proper length of time, should the whole mass prove so virulently corrupted as to display no sign of submission to such treatment, there can be no doubt but death would put a very desirable period to the business, and had much better be solicited than rejected.

CLASS IV.

WOUNDS, ULCERS, FISTULA,
AND POLL EVIL.

WOUNDS

Are a species of injury to which horses are not only perpetually liable, but of so many different kinds, and requiring such various modes of treatment, (according to the cause, appearance, situation, depth, and state of the wound, or habit of the subject) that, to enumerate the whole with all possible or probable circumstances, would be to write a volume on the article alone; which is certainly entitled to every degree of *attention* and *instruction*, from the simple and complex cases that so frequently occur. And though it may naturally be supposed that wounds of size, depth, or danger, must consequently come under the
immediate

immediate care and inspection of the *operative* FARRIER, whose judgment or experience should direct him upon all cases of emergency, as time will not admit of reference to books; and even with such assistance, much more will depend upon his *experimental* dexterity, or expertness in manual operation, than any information he may derive from *literary* instruction, when a sudden exertion of judgment or fortitude is immediately necessary.

WOUNDS may be divided into such a variety, that to enumerate the list of probabilities would be to encounter the work of an age, and serve more to *perplex* than *enlighten* those not altogether adequate to the task of defining technical terms or professional descriptions. To enlarge upon every probable means by which a wound may be received, and from the variety of weapons, or stable instruments, is an absolute impracticability; we will therefore "take up the mangled matter at the best," and endeavour, by a very fair and extensive explanation, to give such DIRECTIONS as shall enable the *professional superintendant*, or *occasional assistant*, to form a proper idea of the business, and make such effectual APPLICATIONS,

TIONS, as may prevent the necessity of calling in extra-assistance, or running into any extremes of practice not *warranted* by REASON or *justified* by NECESSITY.

Finding how very difficult it is to describe the multiplicity of wounds that may probably occur, and the many changes to which they are liable, I shall be studiously attentive to inculcate such information and directions as will, I am induced to believe, exculpate me from the accusation of treating the subject worse than it deserves.

In all wounds the danger is greatest, or the cure most difficult, where large *blood vessels* are separated, the *tendons* injured, or the *vital parts* affected. The regular process of NATURE constituting the cure of wounds, is the *suppression* of blood, the subsequent digestion, or discharge of matter, the incarnation or filling up with flesh, and the cicatrization or skinning over. To effect the *first*; if the injury sustained has separated any blood vessel of sufficient magnitude to produce a hemorrhage or bleeding of consequence, let the mouth be taken up, by passing a proper needle underneath,

neath, furnished with a waxed thread, and made fast according to art or professional knowledge. The person, whose immediate province it is to execute this task, should, no doubt, be amply furnished with the necessary apparatus, (as a variety of needles both crooked and straight) ready provided for the *faculty* by every INSTRUMENT MAKER in London. This operation *depends* so much upon *professional skill* and *experimental practice*, that it is in vain to enlarge upon a subject, to comprehend which would require an entire knowledge of the blood vessels, an ACQUISITION only to be obtained by *theoretical* study and *practical* experience.

When the mouths of the bleeding vessels are obscured, or so surrounded with soft parts that it is impossible to secure the orifice by the assistance of the needle, (which must be absolutely accomplished if an artery is separated) *apply* immediately a *pledget* of *lint* or *tow*, plentifully impregnated with *tincture of myrrh*, *friar's balsam*, or *camphorated spirits*; relying in this instance upon the advantage and safety of a *bandage* (judiciously adapted, and properly applied,) as much as the medical efficacy of STYPTIC applications. NATURE in this

business (as in most others) is, in a great degree, adequate to her own work; and will, by the very *balsamic* property of the blood, do more in *nine* superficial cases out of *ten* than a long list of *ill-formed* UNGUENTS, reported to have effected the most miraculous cures. In addition to this circumstance it must be remembered that a speedy cure depends upon bringing the edges of the *wound* into early contract, which should (particularly if the case is alarming) be immediately performed, by taking up the necessary stitches at proper distances (according to circumstances and discretion) with such needle as the case may require; an operation so very trifling, that it may be most readily executed by any person not at all proficient in the practice; should an emergency render such exertion unavoidably necessary. Taking great care, in large *wounds*, not to draw the edges too close to each other, and hazard the breaking out of the stitches or bringing on an inflammation by an accumulation of confined matter, in not leaving sufficient room for a proper digestion. But in general, where the edges are expeditiously secured, and brought into tolerable contact, the *wound* is very little trouble; the soft parts unite favourably by the adhesive

adhesive quality of the blood, and the cicatrix is speedily formed, without application to the elaborate preparations of art. In cases of this kind the dressings should not be taken off in less than *eight-and-forty hours*; and if a large wound, (where the bleeding was difficult to suppress) not less than *three* days, unless the part has begun to digest, and a perceptible discharge is come on; or the parts surrounding the wound are very much inflamed, in which case the following mild POULTICE may be applied:

Take of bread and barley meal equal parts;
Goulard's vegeto mineral water sufficient to make it of a proper consistence; and add

Lard four or six ounces, at least enough to keep it sufficiently moist.

Let this be renewed twice every day till the swelling or inflammation subsides, and the wound begins to digest or discharge favourably.

To make the VEGETO MINERAL WATER,

TAKE extract of Saturn one ounce;

Camphorated spirits of wine two ounces.

Mix together, and add of rain or river water one quart.

So soon as the swelling subsides, and the wound begins to display favourable signs of digestion, dress with the following, which may, without more mention, be always understood as the general *stable digestive ointment*, and is thus prepared :

Take olive oil one pint;

Yellow wax and black rosin each four ounces;

Burgundy pitch and turpentine each two ounces.

Melt the wax, rosin, and Burgundy pitch, in the oil, over a slow fire ; when taken off stir in the turpentine. For large wounds, where a plentiful discharge is required, stir into this quantity three ounces of the spirits of turpentine, that it may incorporate in getting cool.

It is here necessary to observe nothing can be more truly ridiculous than the idea of applying *greasy* or *unctuous* substances to recent wounds merely superficial, and by which none

of

of the large vessels are affected. For most superficial wounds, or simple lacerations, proceeding from what cause soever, may in general be very soon made perfectly sound, by a single application of the *tincture* or *balsam* before mentioned, or equal parts of *camphorated spirits* and *vinegar*, bandaging up properly, and not opening for some days, that the mouths of the vessels may be sufficiently constringed and hardened before they are exposed to the air; using every precaution to prevent a relaxation of the parts, by the admission of water, or applications of ointment. On the contrary, should a slight *discharge* come on, keep the wound clean, and dress with the DIGESTIVE in very small quantities till the cure is complete,

The spirituous or restringent APPLICATIONS, by their *stypticity* so constringe the mouths of the smaller vessels near the surface, (acting in concert with the natural cement of the blood,) as to render (in many instances) the *officious intrusions* of ART totally unnecessary: but *this* method of cure is frequently rejected as too easy, and the salutary course of Nature is often obstructed and perverted, by the SELF-SUFFICIENT sagacity of THOSE proficients in QUACKERY,

QUACKERY, who, picquing themselves upon a *family receipt*, or *nostrum of antiquity*, had rather prolong the complaint for weeks or months, merely to obtain the reputation of curing what, intrusted to NATURE, would have absolutely cured itself.

Should wounds happen from complicated causes, where the adjacent or surrounding parts have received additional injury (from a fall or bruise), an inflammation and larger *discharge of matter* may consequently ensue, than from a simple wound where no sudden or violent impression upon the vessels or soft parts has taken place : large wounds proceeding from any cause where an evident destruction and *loss of parts* has been occasioned, can only receive substantial cure from the regeneration and incarnation: being a work of nature, and to be effected only by the co-operation of time, it must be waited for with care and patience; as it can originate in no other feature than granulations of new flesh, which, with proper application, will daily continue to increase till the wound or cavity is entirely filled up, when the cicatrix is soon formed, and the cure complete. In wounds of THIS class, the first object is to extract

tract any foreign or extraneous substance, and promote a good digestion; by which not only every degree of foulness is carried off, but the ragged and injured parts themselves putrefy and slough off, being brought away with the dressings so soon as the wound is in a healthy promising state. Here the granulations begin to form and sprout out; and a proportion of judgement is required, but little possessed or exerted upon these occasions; for, instead of nourishing an appearance so much to be solicited (and without which you can obtain no cure) it is often most injudiciously mistaken for fungus, and scouted accordingly: instead of a bed of dry lint to soothe and encourage this effort of nature caustics and escharotics are loudly called for, and plentifully bestowed; the very basis of cure is thus destroyed; the mouths of the vessels are imprudently closed by the worst means; the discharge contributing to the constant improvement is most unnaturally suppressed; and callosities or eschars follow of course.

Ignorance now becomes foiled with its own weapons, the operator standing bewildered in a labyrinth, from which he is in possession of no clue to escape. No day produces a change
but

but for the worse, the wound is dressed, dressed, and DRESSED AGAIN! still *no sign* of relief, no favouring power presides, nor any prevailing GENIUS appears, but the predominant GENIUS of DULNESS, who, anxious to increase the “mischief she has made,” prompts him to finish with fortitude what he had commenced in stupidity! To confess the least degree of inability would be a degradation of dignity, therefore, on he goes (*Ranger* like) “NECK “OR NOTHING!” strong digestives (and those *scalding* too) follow, but follow in vain. No improvement, no enlivening ray, longer to keep up the farce of professional infallibility; no lucky alternative but *mercury*, *vitriol*, and all the family of *fire* renewed, till the serious ceremony terminates in an inveterate ulcer, or confirmed fistula, as will be separately treated on under those heads.

There are certain wounds that occur much more frequently than any other; and though in themselves not at all dangerous, yet something may be expected upon a treatment proper to be adopted in cases that so constantly happen. Among these are *broken knees*, *over-reaches*, and *lacerations* between *hair* and *hoof*. In respect
to

to the first, it is a misfortune whenever it happens that not only reduces the horse very much in his value, but is considered an indelible stigma of imperfection, that (with connoisseurs) renders him at first sight unworthy a second consideration. This being a circumstance universally understood and admitted, there is no doubt but every prudent man will think a certain PREVENTATIVE preferable to a doubtful cure, and admit the propriety of a short observation, without any unfair digression from the subject before us. Not indulging the shadow of fear, by *offending* the shallow EQUESTRIAN HEROES of ROTTEN-ROW, or the more expert and courageous, who (for once in their lives) have joined the royal chase; including that SET who reach London in an hour and fifteen minutes, "*All Lombard-street to an egg-shell!*" I will venture to affirm, that nineteen of every twenty are brought to the ground by unfair and most unmerciful usage.

For those doubtful compositions, whose heads are as light as the heels of their horses, and whose form, by the hurry of conception and ambiguity of generation, are destitute of the more
noble

noble parts necessary to the power of reflecting, can form no idea of the strength of the animal they bestride; but each concluding his steed a Pegasus, formed of a substantial material called *labour everlasting*, and gifted with perpetual motion, they continue to ride or drive the oppressed object till Nature being (after a thousand spirited exertions) at length quite exhausted, can move no farther. And I am convinced it requires no *uncommon share of penetration*, at least no *magical* assistance from BRES-LAW, or his contemporaries, to discover so great a palpability as that all things certainly fall when, being deprived of support, they can stand no longer. From this trifling digression I infer (and enforce my opinion) that more horses are thrown down and irremediably injured by the carelessness and shameful inattention of bad riders on bad roads, and over rolling stones, or when they are most cruelly exhausted with labour and fatigue, than by any other means in the whole list of accidents.

From what cause soever this misfortune may arise, the *first step* to RELIEF will be still the same. Wash the part well with a sponge and warm water, thoroughly cleansing the
wounds

Wounds or lacerations from every retention of gravel or sand; for these will evidently irritate and inflame the tender parts, and be productive of a discharge which may often be entirely prevented by gently wiping dry after the use of the sponge, and plentifully embrocating the parts with either of the liquids before mentioned, bandaging over a pledget of tow wet with the same, repeating it once or twice if circumstances should render it necessary. This should be continued, that an eschar or cicatrix may be formed to render unctuous or greasy applications unnecessary; but should the wound or laceration be so violent as to produce great inflammation, *suppuration* must ensue, and ought to be encouraged: to this end apply a *poultice* of the ingredients before mentioned, and let the cure be afterwards performed by regular applications of the *stable degestive ointment*.

OVER-REACHES are the injuries sustained by the throwing in of the hind-toe upon the back part or heel of the fore-foot, in the hollow below the fetlock joint, and above the hoof. They are sometimes very violent, and subject to great discharges from the bruises and laceration

laceration in conjunction ; at others they are merely superficial ; and the treatment must be exactly the same as laid down for other wounds, making such allowances and alterations as circumstances may require, or emergencies dictate.

The *same* system must be adopted in all injuries sustained between hair and hoof, except where a horse has been stubbed in hunting, as sometimes happens in a leap or in covert ; when a stump coming in immediate contact with the upper edge of the hoof, a laceration or penetration is effected, in which case the membrane is almost instantly protruded ; and unless speedily prevented soon constitutes the origin of what is afterwards denominated a **QUITTOR**. To effect this dissolve a drachm of corrosive sublimate in one ounce of camphorated spirits ; and, after touching the prominence well with the solution, bind up firm, (covering the protruded part with a small piece of card or thin sheet lead), and repeat it once a day for three or four days, not neglecting the bandage, and taking care the foot be not immersed in water. As this subject will come under farther discussion in the article of TUMOURS or IMPOSTHUMES,

HUMES, we proceed now to treat of both, when by improper treatment, or bad habit, they are degenerated into ulcers.

U L C E R S

ARE *wounds* or *abscesses* become inflexible either by an imprudent course of management, an indifferent habit, or an acrimonious disposition of the juices; but in general much more the effect of the former than either of the other two. It has been a practice with Farriers of almost every denomination, upon a wound's not inclining to heal so soon as expected, to increase the strength of the digestive application, as if the very tendons were to be extracted. This effort of art not succeeding is followed by a *corrosive*, that, increasing the evil, a *caustic* in general crowns the whole of *country practice*. The wound (that perhaps at first required only the necessary time for incarnation, and the most simple treatment) not having kept pace in its cure with the imagination or impatience of the Doctor, (for so we all are from the *president* in *Warwick*

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wick-lane to the *thill horse* of the worst team in the parish), is destined to undergo the changes in treatment just described.

Thus the *wound*, that would in all probability have submitted to a degree of regular and consistent treatment, is retarded, or rather obstructed, in its natural progress and proper discharge, by means directly opposite to the dictates of reason and discretion. The application of a *corrosive* (that is generally made with a heavy hand of iron) instantly collapses the mouths of the finer vessels, and destroys the sprouting granulations of new flesh; nature being thus checked, displays an evident change for the worse, and the DOCTOR is now (to make use of his own expressive language) “*out of the frying pan into the fire.*” By this new disappointment his indignation is excited against both *disease* and the *diseased*; in the fervour of his wrath he determines, as it wont submit to “fair means, it shall to “foul.” The whole body of *caustics* before mentioned become subservient to his purpose; and are so liberally poured in as to constitute so great a degree of callosity upon the surface, that a considerable length of time and portion
of

of judgment are absolutely necessary to remove what *ignorance* and *obstinacy* have so firmly established.

To extirpate the *callosity*, and procure a proper discharge, are the leading indications, and must be obtained before the cure can proceed to your wish. To effect this, foment with a decoction of cammomile and mallows, as hot as can be conveniently applied; then scarify superficially the whole part, both longitudinally and transversely, with a fleam or abscess lancet, so as to entirely penetrate the callous substance upon the surface; after which it must be dressed with the following ointment twice every day; the fomentation and superficial incisions to be repeated occasionally, if necessary, till the callosity is quite sloughed off, and comes away with the dressings:

Take of yellow basilicon two ounces;

Turpentine and black basilicon of each one ounce;

Red precipitate (powdered very fine) one ounce.

The two basilicons to be melted together over the fire; when taken off, stir in the turpentine;

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and,

and, lastly, when cool, add the precipitate (very finely powdered), and let them be minutely incorporated upon a stone or marble slab.

So soon as this obstacle is perfectly *removed*, and the discharge come to its proper *consistence*, dress in general with a small portion of lint, thinly covered with *either* of the *basilicons*, placed under a pleget of tow, spread with the *stable digestive* mentioned in the last article. Should the wound incarnate too fast, and fill with fungus (commonly called *proud flesh*), slightly touch such parts with a piece of *un-slacked lime*, regulating the mode and application by the necessity, repeating it as occasion may require. When the cicatrix, or skinning over, is nearly accomplished, the cure may be completed by hardening the surface with a little *tincture of myrrh*.

This is the direct and rational MODE OF CURE established in every kind of ulcer, as well as those originating in the cause already enlarged on; but where the obstacle to cure arises from some defect in the constitution, or acrimony in the fluids, the assistance of mercurial physic and subsequent course of mild alteratives

alteratives must be called in, to ensure effect from the whole. Without descending to a *particular formulæ* for this purpose alone, I refer the reader to a VARIETY (prescribed under the distinct heads of GREASE, SURFEIT, and FARCY) for such selection as may best coincide with his opinion upon the constitution and bodily state of the subject diseased.

It is a rule established in surgery, and should be in farriery, where there is a *sinus* or *cavity* leading to a remote or hidden cause of complaint, and from whence a palpable *discharge* issues, the course and depth should be accurately ascertained by the probe; and, if no tendinous parts present to forbid the operation, the *sinus*, *cavity*, or *vacuum*, should be instantly LAID OPEN (with a bistory) to its utmost extent, and properly filled with a pledget of lint, well impregnated with warm digestive, and plentifully covered with tow spread with the same. After a *second* or *third* dressing, should the *inside* of such cavity prove callous, or hard in substance, it must be taken away by the KNIFE, or destroyed by the means before described. If it be so situated that the parts forbid an entire separation, sound with the

probe, and at its extremity make a *counter incision* through the integuments to meet the probe, till by passing through it removes any lodgment that may have been left for the matter to corrode, which it will very soon do, so as in many cases to affect the bone itself.

As a very good DETERGENT WASH for the cleansing inveterate ulcers, or injecting into such passages as from the disposition of the parts cannot be laid open, I have reason to recommend the following, it retaining every advantage without one of the prejudicial qualities so predominant in the mercurial and vitriolic compositions:

Take honey and vinegar each two ounces;

Liquify over the fire; and when cool add tincture of myrrh and tincture of cantharides each one ounce.—Mix.

When the ulcer is by these means divested of its virulence and cadaverous smell, the callosity is sloughed off or extracted, and a favourable appearance of incarnation come on; the dressings may be changed from the *precipitate digestive*, before prescribed, to pledgets spread with

with *Locatellus's balsam*, or the following
EPULOTIC CERATE:

Take of white diachylon plaster and olive oil
each two ounces ;

Locatellus's balsam and balsam of capivi, each
one ounce.

Melt the plaster and *Locatellus* in the oil over
the fire ; take off, and when nearly cool stir in
the capivi a little at a time till it is all incor-
porated.

In short, cases of THIS kind come so fre-
quently under the hands of the FARRIER, that
little might have been thought necessary upon
the subject : but I have been thus explicit, for
the information and advantage of those who
are STRANGERS to both THEORY and
PRACTICE ; that, being " forewarned they
may be forearmed," and not suffer a simple
accident to be gradually ripened to a serious
misfortune ; but, availing themselves of this
requisite instruction, so *destroy* the prevalence
of MYSTERY and power of PREJUDICE, as to
ensure a cure under their own superintendence
upon a basis rational, clear, and comprehensive,
divested of the folly of experiments and cruelty
of ancient practice.

FISTULA.

A FISTULA is the palpable consequence of general neglect in more instances than one; first in not perceiving the saddle's being too wide in the tree, and suffering the inside of the pummel to press so much as not only to pinch, but, by its constant friction, to bruise the parts, and render an imposthumation or formation of matter inevitable. I am very sorry to observe, this is *seldom taken notice of* in time, till the EVIL has been repeated and constitutes bruise upon bruise, when an inflammation and swelling ensue, threatening an unavoidable suppuration. To this a still greater error succeeds; for during the time the process of Nature is going on, and the matter contained in the tumour is undergoing concoction, or change from inflammatory or grumous blood, and extravasated lymph, to its state of systematic perfection for discharge, (in general termed a proper degree of ripeness) strong *repellents* or powerful *spirituous compositions* are brought into constant use; and, by their peculiar properties, form one universal OBSTACLE to the
great

great effort of NATURE for relief. Here begins a terrible *struggle* between the *contending powers* of NATURE and ART; for *those* applications failing in their intentional effect of repulsion upon the contents, distribute their properties upon the integuments, where, by their repeated application, an induration is effected very unfavourable to the abscess in its more advanced state. NATURE at last *effects her purpose*, the tumour is at length brought to suppurate, and a discharge comes on; but without one of those advantages that would have been acquired, had the efforts of Nature been attended to and properly encouraged, instead of opposed.

From this INCONSISTENT mode of treatment the edges of the wound, when enlarged, become unkind, the seat of a foul or callous complexion; and instead of a substantial, favourable, healthy matter, the discharge is a *complication* of blood, sanies, and a kind of indurated half concocted matter, intermixed with an acrid or corrosive ichor.

This is in general the origin and progress of what (with additional bad treatment) constitutes
a *confirmed*

a *confirmed fistula*, and comes directly under the very method of cure described in the last article ; with renewed instruction, and remembrance to lay open all sinuses or cavities into which the probe can be passed, taking care to make no transverse opening across the withers to divide the ligament, but making the incisions longitudinal on either side or both as occasion may require. Should the discharge continue sluggish or incomplete, *enlarge* the proportion of *turpentine* or *precipitate* in the ointment, adding an ounce of the *spirit of turpentine*, if the matter is very offensive ; making also a considerable addition in the *tinctures of myrrh* and *cantharides* to the DETERGENT LOTION before prescribed. When the applications are required to exert their digestive powers more effectually, in consequence of any particular languor upon the part, or deficiency in the discharge, let the ointment be applied with a degree of warmth sufficient to insinuate itself into the interstices or openings, but not so hot as to scald or harden the surface.

Incisions, or scarifications, must be made whenever necessary, and the callosities extirpated exactly as before described ; using neither
corrosives

corrosives or caustics, but adhering to the method of keeping down fungus, or excrescences, by the application of unslacked lime in the lump (for a few minutes), or previously powdered, where the wound will not admit of its use in the OTHER form. THIS method should have the preference on all occasions; for which a very predominant reason may be urged, that, receiving its power only from the moisture it imbibes from the part, it immediately performs the purpose it is intended to execute, and becomes directly inactive; whereas the favourite articles of *aqua fortis*, *oil of vitriol*, and *mercury*, not only absolutely CAUTERIZE or BURN all the part, but raise a great degree of inflammation upon the surrounding vessels, and evidently increase the mischief they were intended to prevent. The *detergent* WASH, before mentioned, cannot be too frequently used till the wound bears marks of amendment; and care must be taken in the separation of all fistulous sinuses to leave the orifice or opening as much declining as possible, that the matter may naturally pass downwards, without being subject to a probability of retention.

Thus

Thus much by way of INSTRUCTION for CURING, what may mostly be prevented by a very moderate share of care and attention, or, more properly speaking, an *exertion* of that reason, generally distinguished by the appellation of *common sense*. LET IT BE REMARKED, the frequent application of *repellents* is a palpable absurdity, unless in an early state of the swelling, before the vessels are sufficiently bruised and inflamed to eject the fluids that, becoming extravasated and stagnant, form the tumour; which, being once accumulated, is too viscid in substance, and large in quantity, to be again rarefied and absorbed into the circulation. The swelling, being too far advanced to admit a hope of repulsion, should be *promoted* by *softening poultices* (as will be particularized in the next class, under the discussion of TUMOURS); the course of suppuration will then go on in a natural way, the concoction will be perfect, and the discharge consequently effectual. Upon its first rupture or breaking, the orifice from which the matter oozes will be but trifling: this should be immediately enlarged, as much as is necessary for the discharge and admission of applications. If the usual method of insinuating a tent is found

found at all necessary, NEVER let it by any means be too LONG continued, lest the parts by a tedious separation become divested of their disposition to unite, and the edges grow callous from their constant depression. The judgment may be much *assisted* upon this subject, by frequent *references* to the two preceding articles of WOUNDS and ULCERS; remembering in all, after the necessary and proper discharges, to conduct the cure according to the variety of circumstances clearly pointed out in this and the subjects last treated on.

POLL EVIL.

ALTHOUGH this comes most properly under the unavoidable inspection, occasional dressings, and intentional cure, of the *operative farrier*, and consequently rather out of the line first drawn for the plan of this work; yet as the subject has been so INFAMOUSLY treated (by an author before quoted) that indignation becomes too justly excited to pass it over without such ANIMADVERSION as may tend to *enlighten the mind*, and *rectify the judgment* of such, as (from absolute WANT of comprehension or reflection) pay

pay an implicit *obedience* to every *absurdity*, *folly*, or *falsehood*, sanctioned with the AUTHORITY of the *press*; and conceive a certain degree of infallibility appertains to whatever makes its appearance in print. That these are the sentiments of the lower class, is too well known to require corroboration; and I am induced to introduce a few REMARKS upon this subject by the inconsistent and unmerciful (not to add *infernal*) advice held forth to practice, in a *publication* that would alone entitle it to the FLAMES and perpetual OBLIVION.

We are there told “the *poll-evil* is an abscess
 “ near the poll of a horse, formed in the sinews
 “ between the noll bone and the uppermost
 “ vertebræ of the neck.” You are then instructed to scald with a compound of “oil of
 “ turpentine, corrosive mercury, verdigrease,
 “ Roman vitriol, green copperas, and train oil:” these are to be poured “SCALDING HOT
 “ into the wound, and stitched up for several
 “ days; and, if matter flows in great abundance
 “ and of a thin consistence, it must be scalded
 “ again;” &c. &c. This IGNORANT *unfeeling* attempt to arrest the judgment, and IMPOSE upon the understanding, is almost too ridiculous
 to

to excite contempt; but, in compliment to the less informed *reader*, it is impossible to pass it over without branding the very thought with the epithet it is so justly entitled to.

What are we to think of the *professional knowledge* or *abilities* of an author, who could sanction with his NAME the recommendation of a practice so *infamous* and *detestable*, that no one rational or consistent idea can be produced or pleaded to prove its propriety. Will any advocate for such INFERNAL PRACTICE, (and infernal it certainly is in every meaning of the word) venture to affirm the writer conceived or possessed a competent, or even a tolerable knowledge of the structure of parts or property of medicine; that when the membranous system is locally injured, and the lacerated vessels rendered highly irritable, could venture to promulgate the consistency of glutting them with the most powerful POISONS, as if he felt some invincible *antipathy* to the species, and had attentively studied the most likely means of effecting their total extirpation. For the completion of this business, lest the most destructive *poisons* should prove ineffectual, you are instructed to ADD fuel to their natural fire, by combining their whole

whole force, and pouring them "*scalding hot*," nearest to one of the most vital parts; (nay nearest the original nervous seat of pain,) even the brain itself. Sorry I am to acknowledge this genuine and unadulterated specimen of the *immaculate* perfection of the "PRACTICAL TREATISE" has been repeatedly PUT IN PRACTICE by fools or knaves, whom ignorance has misled or confidence betrayed; to the evident destruction of numbers that have died in the most excruciating agonies, sinking under the load of accumulated misery and persecution, devoted victims to a system replete with the most unparalleled cruelty that the HEART could *dictate*, or the HAND *direct*.

Need I, can it be possibly necessary for me, to *point out* for the information of even the most superficial or least considerate *observer*, the destruction of parts that must inevitably ensue; no combination of nature can stand against this accumulation of cruelty and infliction of punishment. The finer vessels, the veins, arteries, muscles, nay the ossified structure or bony parts themselves, must nearly submit to this elaborate and studied work of devastation. The *humane reader*, whose judgment is not biased by prejudice,

dice, or his reason blinded by an adherence to custom, and whose feelings move in concert with my own, will *shudder* at the reflection; and to every sportsman looking with the eye of extreme pleasure upon the excellencies of the animal (whose sufferings I lament), do I appeal for a justification of the warmth I have been naturally prompted to display on the occasion. And in PITY to a *species* so eminently entitled to every degree of MERCY, CARE, and ATTENTION; let us hope (as we are now become more reformed in our minds, and rectified in our judgments) that this DAMNABLE doctrine may be universally *exploded* and *buried* in ETERNAL OBLIVION.

Let it then be understood the *poll-evil* originates in a *tumour* situate as before described; and generally proceeds from injuries sustained on that part by blows, bruises, or such frequent and excessive friction from large or heavy harness as may sufficiently irritate the part to provoke a formation of matter, as has been explained in the preceding article. If it is early observed, let the seat of pain be very frequently fomented with vinegar made warm, for at least a quarter of an hour, rubbing upon the

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part

part immediately after about an ounce of camphorated spirits of wine, and then bandaging over the part a double flannel dipped in the vinegar, warm as before.

Should the swelling refuse SUBMISSION to this treatment, after a regular perseverance for eight-and-forty hours, continuing to enlarge itself and display invincible symptoms of maturation, make no farther attempt by REPELLENTS to oppose the progress of NATURE, such obstinacy will never prevail; therefore contribute your early and cheerful assistance to promote a speedy suppuration. For this purpose let the following *poultice* be immediately applied and repeated twice every day, till an aperture or opening is effected in the abscess:

Take of camomile flowers, turnips, and coarse bread, about equal quantities; boil the camomile and turnips in a sufficient quantity of water, till the latter are soft enough to bruise all together; then stir in four ounces of white lily root (beat to a paste in the mortar); and, lastly, add, while hot, three or four ounces of lard, and two of common turpentine.

This application should be made as warm as the nature of the case will admit, that it may the
better

better fulfil the intent of relaxing the vessels, increasing their circumference, and promoting the speedy flux of matter to this particular part. So soon as an opening appears let it be enlarged sufficiently to insure a discharge, and prevent the retention of any improper portion of matter; and continue to proceed with the cure according to the state of the case, collecting your informations from the variety of directions extensively given under the different heads of *wounds, ulcers, fistula,* and *tumours*; to the last of which we now proceed.

CLASS V.

TUMOURS, WARBLER, NAVEL-
GALLS, AND SITFASTS.

T U M O U R S

ARE of many and various kinds, according to their different causes and situations; as the œdematous, steatomous, encysted, and scrofulous; but as the separate and distinct explanations of these, would lead the reader into *anatomical* disquisitions *foreign* to, and very far beyond, the *limits* prescribed for the completion of this work (which is intended for general comprehension), I shall make a cursory REMARK upon *each*, and proceed to a minute investigation of the SIMPLE TUMOUR coming so constantly under common observation and management.

management. The *œdematous* and *encysted tumours* are nearly synonymous, originating in a cyst or bag, containing a kind of ichorous, bloody sanies, or gelatinous fluid; which being evacuated, the cyst does not always submit to digestives or escharotics, but must be extirpated by the knife, and cured as a common wound; for the completion of which ample DIRECTIONS may be found in the preceding class under that head.

The STEATOMOUS are those tumours that form on different parts, and pass in general under the denomination of *wens*, containing, when opened, or extracted, a substance not unlike suet in its earliest state, when hardly cold; neither of the above are expected to submit to any topical application, unless upon the very first observation; when an attempt may be made by the most powerful *repellents*, specified in many of the preceding pages, and a small portion of the strongest *mercurial ointment* rubbed in every night, for a considerable length of time; but even to this there is no *hope of submission*, unless in the first stage of its infancy. Nor can any RADICAL CURE be in general obtained but by *instrumental* extirpation; as this must be un-

avoidably attended with loss of time, and a proportional share of danger, if seated upon or intersected by the muscular parts, perhaps it may be most prudent to omit the experiment, and submit it to chance.

SCROFULOUS TUMOURS are such as originate in scorbutic or hereditary taints, and increase or diminish according to the state or acrimony of the blood; they are therefore more than any of the others dependent upon external application, and particularly the *mercurial unguent* just before described, assisted by a course of *mercurial* or *antimonial* ALTERATIVES, as may be discretionally selected from the chapters on those subjects. As the mercurial ointment has been repeatedly recommended, it may not be inapplicable to introduce the mode of preparation:

Take quicksilver two ounces;
Lard six ounces;
Balsam of sulphur half an ounce;

Rub the quicksilver with the balsam in a metal mortar till the globules disappear; then add the lard by degrees, first made warm, and keep in a pot for use.

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I now proceed to the *explanation* of a SIMPLE TUMOUR, or ABCESS, taken in its single view, as one effort of nature to relieve itself from the weight of an extravasated fluid collected, and (the cause being inflammatory) become too tenacious for transpiration through the cutaneous passages or pores of the skin, and too viscid to be again absorbed or taken into the circulation. This is the principle of action, whether proceeding from a grumous state of the blood obstructing the finer passages, accumulating and acting by its *stimulus* upon the irritable parts; or from an extravasation of fluid ejected from the veins or lymphatics, in consequence of laceration from bruises, or ruptures from strains. It has been a predominant and established practice to attempt repulsion, even after the decisive formation of matter, by the most powerful spirituous applications, thereby inflaming the integuments and indurating the contents; not without a very great probability of producing an *inveterate* ulcer or *long standing* fistula.

In all applications, whether external or internal, REASON will prove a very useful assistant; pay due *respect* to the INDICATIONS

of NATURE, solicit the INTERPOSITION of REASON, and in conjunction they will be found most admirable *auxiliaries* to the judicious EXERTIONS of ART. All *tumours* (proceeding from what cause soever) tending to certain maturation should be expeditiously assisted with very warm *fomentations*, composed of *cammomile*, *marshmallows*, *rosemary*, *lavender*, *wormwood*, *elder flowers*, or any two or three of the whole, the PROPERTIES of *stimulus* and *heat* being still the same, and to be effected by a part as well as the entire.

After each time of using the *fomentation*, apply a *poultice* of the suppurating kind; selecting from the following articles such ingredients as may prove most applicable to the purpose:

Coarse bread, boiled turnips, pollard or bran, cammomile flowers, flour of mustard, white lily-root, (beat to a paste) with an addition of turpentine, yellow basilicon, and lard sufficient to keep it moist.

These applications must be regularly continued till the pliability of the tumour, and the fluctuation of matter, prove it in a proper
state

state for perforation. Let it then be carefully opened by a *superficial incision* sufficiently large to admit of such discharge as the size of the abscess may require ; dressing with the necessary introduction of *dossils of lint*, well impregnated with the following DIGESTIVE, and covered with a POULTICE of mild ingredients for a few days to encourage the discharge and form a convenient bed or covering for the wound.

STRONG DIGESTIVE.

TAKE bees wax three ounces, turpentine, Burgundy pitch, and spirits of turpentine, each two ounces; olive oil six ounces; melt the wax and Burgundy pitch in the oil over a slow fire ; then take off and stir in the turpentine; and, when nearly cool, add the spirit by degrees, and incorporate well,

The tents to be insinuated, furnished with a portion of THIS *unguent* moderately warm, and introduced no larger than will leave sufficient room to be placed in, and extracted easily, thereby not impeding the incarnation. Should any fungus or proud flesh render it necessary, dress occasionally with the PRECIPITATE OINTMENT (under the article of wounds), and cover with a pledget of the STABLE DIGES-

TIVE

TIVE, keeping your bandage always neat and firm, that the sides or edges may be encouraged in their disposition to unite or come into contact. So soon as the last stage of cure, the skinning over, is complete, immediately throw aside all greasy applications, and harden the surface first with equal parts of *tincture of myrrh* and *vinegar*, afterwards with *tincture of myrrh* alone. Should any eschar of consequence remain, and the hair not follow kindly, rub the part gently every night with a small quantity of *camphorated spermaceti ointment*, the best article known to promote the return of the hair upon the knees or any other part.

So much has been said, and so many instructions advanced, for the various dressings that may be found necessary, under the articles of WOUNDS, ULCERS, FISTULA, POLL-EVIL, and TUMOURS, immediately succeeding each other, there cannot be (omitted) any thing more to add upon this subject; naturally concluding every PRACTITIONER or SUPERINTENDANT will *regulate* his applications and *vary* his dressings according to the state or disposition of the case before him.

WARBLES

W A R B L E S

ARE those small swellings or tumours formed on the sides, or some part of the back of a horse, either by the excessive heat and friction in a long chase, the extreme pressure of some hard or protuberant part in the stuffing of the saddle, or the edge of a narrow saddle cloth coming directly under the seat of the rider; and very frequently by the *cent. per cent.* care and caution of the saddler, in the economical length of his girths; for, being sometimes by much too short, the buckles at either one side or the other, set below the pad; or what is still worse, half on and half off; by which means the lower corners of the buckles constitute this inconvenience to a certainty, as I have repeatedly experienced. But let them proceed from which of these causes they may, I shall, in the cure, pass over the SUBLIMITY of CAPT. BURDON's fertile invention of the "hot greasy dishclout," as unnecessary; also BARTLET's *servility* and *sterility* in echoing so GREASY an idea; but as every extensive reader upon this subject must have observed "A Practical Treatise" may
be

be compiled from GIBSON, BURDON, BRACKEN, and others, without coining a NEW THOUGHT, I shall forbear to animadvert upon the advantages of PLAGIARISM, and come to the proper treatment of the subject now before us. Not omitting to observe how very difficult it may be to make it convenient in SOME COUNTRIES (and to SOME POCKETS) to boil a rump of beef or gammon of bacon, merely for the procuration of "a hot greasy dishclout" to effect the purpose: upon the force of this natural reflection, I relinquish the idea of enforcing so *difficult a process*, and shall endeavour to furnish such SUBSTITUTES as will certainly prove more efficacious and satisfactory.

So soon as the saddle is taken off, after a severe chase, or hard journey, a good groom or hostler will be very minute in his examinations to discover whether an injury has been sustained in this part or any other. He will instantly perceive, by the horse's wincing, whether there is any defect from which a warble may speedily ensue; if so, upon the first appearance, or earliest discovery, bathe three or four times a day with the following REPELLENT:

Take

NAVEL GALLS. 157

Take extract of Saturn half an ounce;
Camphorated spirits of wine, two ounces;
Soft water, a quarter of a pint.

Mix the extract with the spirits, by shaking well together, and then add the water; or if these cannot be easily procured just at the time, substitute, for the moment, of vinegar and brandy, equal parts; but the stronger must be obtained so soon as possible, and persevered in till the tumour is dispelled.

The original cause of the warble must be likewise discovered and removed, to prevent a repetition upon the same part, from which, or the continuation, a SITFAST will inevitably ensue.

NAVEL GALLS

ARE, in the first instance, *tumours* formed upon the *vertebræ* or *spine*, and caused by a deficiency (or scarcity of stuffing, on each side the pad, at the back part of the saddle; which letting the tree come into close contact with the back bone, the parts become bruised by the severe pressure and constant friction. An inflammation

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mation succeeds, and produces a swelling of the encysted kind, containing a gelatinous fluid, which, if not treated with frequent repetitions of the following repellent lotions, upon the earliest discovery, will not submit to this mode of application.

Take of Minderus's spirit,
Camphorated spirits,
Common brandy,
And verjuice or best vinegar, of each equal parts.

Or,

Take sal armoniac three drachms;
Distilled vinegar four ounces;
British brandy half a gill.—Mix.

Should these fail of success, the evacuation must be solicited by gentle emollients, as warm *fomentations* (before described), and softening *poultices*; upon its arriving at a proper degree of maturity, let the necessary incision be made superficially (not in the style recommended by GIBSON, of "cutting down to the quick,") and the cyst or bag, extracted with its contents, if EASILY practicable; if not the present extraction (mentioned by some as necessary) is in fact superfluous and nugatory; as it becomes immediately

immediately extraneous, and of course putrefies and sloughs off with the dressings. After all the various instructions laid down for the different applications, under a multiplicity of preceding articles, forming a regular chain of connection, any farther addition must be unnecessary, ONE hint only excepted, viz. In the treatment of any, or all, where the vacuums are large, and the discharge sluggish from the mouths of the vessels being plugged by a viscosity of the matter; or thin and ichorous, from a languor and coldness of the parts, a frequent use of the following DETERGENT will both cleanse and stimulate, so as to remove the obstruction in the first instance, and promote a proper discharge in the other:

Take of white vitriol and sugar of lead each three drachms;

Spring water half a pint;

Tincture of myrrh one ounce.—Mix.

And in all cases where the fungus or proud flesh does not *submit* to the *precipitate ointment*, pledgets of dry lint under the digestives, or applications of the above lotion, a small portion of the *red precipitate*, white or blue vitriol
(very

(very finely powdered) must be occasionally sprinkled over the excrescences, but not with the usual hand of indiscretion, otherwise your corrosive in that case becomes a *caustic*; a callosity is consequently occasioned, and your imprudent and misapplied remedy becomes worse than the disease.

A S I T F A S T

Is the integument or hide of a horse become intirely callous or insensible, after the tumour called a WARBLE is repelled and taken up into the circulation, or has transpired in a natural evacuation, or circular oozing, furrounding the callosity termed a SITFAST. In some little time the hair comes off, and it bears the appearance of a foreign solid substance, fixed in the center of what seems to be a superficial wound. For this simple and very trifling complaint there is but one certain and expeditious cure. All applications to soften the eschar will prove of no utility, *scarifications* will be tedious, and often ineffectual; to prevent therefore a loss of time by such fruitless attempts, let it be clearly and finally

finally understood, it can be effected only by EXTIRPATION; an operation so very trifling, it will not admit of a moment's hesitation, and may be taken off with a common penknife, and healed as a superficial wound. But the most ready and least painful method of taking it off, is by just raising either edge till it can be taken hold of with a pair of common pincers; when, by leaning them to any side, you have an immediate fulcrum, or lever, and separate it instantaneously without pain or inconvenience. After the extirpation it may be treated as a simple superficial laceration, and may in general be healed by a frequent application of *friar's balsam*, *tincture of myrrh*, or, in very trifling cases, with a little *common brandy*.

CLASS VI.

COLDS, COUGHS, PLEURISY,
INFLAMMATION OF THE LUNGS,
BROKEN WIND, AND CON-
SUMPTION.

C O L D S

ARE a species of disease not only acquired by different means, but likewise very different in their effects; both which we shall endeavour to elucidate in a manner much more extensive and satisfactory than any that have gone before us. COLDS are in general more frequently the effect of neglect than chance, and are mostly acquired by the *stupidity* or *inattention* of those to whose care the *horse* is unavoidably intrusted. The various means by which COLDS are caught, in either man or beast, we naturally suppose to be

be so well understood, that a minute investigator of the operations of nature would conclude any explanation upon this subject entirely superfluous. But as there doubtless are many juvenile sportsman, who, in the very zenith of sublunary enjoyment and constant pursuit of pleasure, never afforded the subject a moment's consideration, I shall point out such CAUSES as are most likely to produce the variety of effects we shall afterwards proceed to explain.

When a HORSE, after being rode hard, and in a high state of perspiration, is suffered to stand still (particularly in the winter season, or in bad weather) to drink cold water in this state; placed in an open stable in such situation; left after a wet and dirty journey to dry in that condition; or his clothing left off at an improper season; it is very natural to conclude the *groom* is a KNAVE, the *hostler* a FOOL, or the *master* a MADMAN. And although these circumstances seem little likely to occur by the frailty of one, or the folly of the other, yet the experienced sportsman and traveller, who seldom move without the eye of observation, will convince you they (among

a variety of additional impositions) happen every day. Having here obliquely remarked what I naturally conclude is almost universally known, I shall be studiously anxious to explain the nature of colds, and their different effects, so as to urge the necessity of their being perfectly understood, that prevention in future may become an object of attention.

The process of Nature we allude to, in the appellation of COLD, is a general obstruction of the cutaneous passages or pores of the skin, formed for the transpiration of perspirable matter, proportionally emitted from every part of the frame, and intended to expel that superfluous moisture by an almost insensible evacuation. But this exertion of Nature being totally suppressed, by a sudden collapse, or closing of the pores, from one of the causes before described, the perspirable matter is prevented in its natural course, and returned upon the body in a preternatural and morbid state.

We now come to the mischievous effect, according to the degree of inveteracy or infection of the attack. The most penetrating and acrimonious particles immediately make their
passage

passage to the blood vessels; and, intermixing with the mass, produce different degrees of disease, acting differently upon different subjects; the injury sustained being in some respects regulated by the degree of heat or perspiration the horse was in at the time of being exposed to the original cause. This circumstance once collected, upon the foundation of such inquiries, some idea may be formed of its probable duration and severity. The effects of cold are not only soon discovered where there is a constant attention and care, but an observation may be very early made to what part it more immediately directs its attack. For instance, if the nervous system is the most irritable, you speedily perceive it in the EYES; if the glandular, upon the NECK, THROAT, under the EARS, or in the HEAD; if more particularly upon the blood (in which both the vessels and their contents are concerned) the whole system of circulation being affected, you soon discover its seat to be taken upon the LUNGS; and will perceive it displayed more or less in a COUGH, or difficulty of breathing, according to the severity of attack, from the proportion of perspirable matter repelled (become morbid) and compulsively absorbed into the circulation.

So soon as the horse in this state a symptomatic fever attends, which is to be understood no more than a degree of febrile heat, or irritability dependant on the original cause, which gradually ceases as the primary disease is found to decline.

The blood in all these instances becomes languid and enfeebled by it's increase and incumbrance, whilst its velocity is preternaturally compelled in the stricture of the vessels, upon their over accumulated contents, which palpably constitute the obstruction and produce the fever. Having traced the very principle of colds to their original cause, and pointed out their different effects upon the *eyes, glands, lungs, and circulation*, I shall proceed first to that kind of cold fixed on the lungs, distinguished by COUGH, and its consequences, enlarging upon the other two, when we come to treat upon their separate classes, under the disorders of the eyes and strangles, or tumours upon the glands. I shall therefore take this complaint in its first stage, when it is early discovered by an industrious servant or attentive master, and generally submits to immediate care and simple remedies; particularly

particularly if proper respect is paid to the excellent maxim of "never letting alone till " to-morrow what may be done to-day;" for blood should be instantly taken away according to symptoms, size, state, and condition. Be accurate in quantity, and preserve it a few hours to ascertain its state; if livid, or black, with a coat of size upon its surface, you have evident demonstration of its VISCIDITY and obstructed circulation through the finer vessels of the LUNGS. In three or four hours after bleeding give a mash of bran and oats equal parts, upon which pour boiling water sufficient; then stir in *unadulterated* aniseed and liquorice powders each one ounce, and of honey four. In two hours after the mash give a gallon or six quarts of soft water moderately warm, in which has been dissolved two ounces of NITRE. Let the mashes be continued every night and morning, giving a moderate feed of dry oats in the middle of the day, good sweet hay in small quantities, and the same proportion of *nitre* to be repeated in the water after each mash. To these must be added the necessary regulations of GOOD dressing and GENTLE exercise, which in general soon

effect the cure of such COLDS as are counteracted upon the first attack.

On the contrary, should time or circumstances have prevented those early advantages, the attack has been neglected, and the disorder made a rapid progress; should the COUGH be *violent* and constant, the horse very dull and heavy, declining his food, and the symptomatic fever run high, the blood will consequently prove as above described. In such case the symptoms will perhaps not immediately submit to the above plan so soon as may be wished or expected, therefore repeat your *bleeding* in two or three days at farthest, according to the state and necessity, altering the mashies to equal parts of *malt* and *bran*, scalded with boiling water; when nearly cool enough for the manger, stir in of *elecampane*, *aniseed*, and *liquorice* powders, each one ounce; let this be repeated every night and morning, continuing the noon-feed dry, and the *nitre* two ounces in the water as before directed.

Let it be remembered, for consolation, that COLDS or COUGHS thus treated, before they have

have been suffered by neglect or penury to become obdurate by long standing, generally submit to a very short course of trouble or expense; whilst tardiness in procuring expeditious relief is often productive of events that no future assiduity can relieve. By immediate *bleeding* the obstruction is consequently reduced and the circulation promoted; rarefaction is effected, and the stricture upon the vessels removed, by the warm mashes and cordials; the irritating mucus engendered by the inflamed glands is likewise divested of its acrimony, and the pressure upon the lungs reduced by relaxing and lessening the contents of the body. Under these advantages you are eased of the complaint almost immediately, or a critical discharge comes on at the nostrils, and terminates in a few days, what neglected soon constitutes a confirmed COUGH, ASTHMA, BROKEN WIND, OR CONSUMPTION.

In respect to these disorders, their descriptions (or rather the different conjectures) have been so extended, turned, twisted, and mutilated, in their transmissions from one *author* to *another*, that it is natural to suppose no true state of either could be ascertained, or any thing satisfactory

satisfactory advanced upon the subject. We have the authority of a century past to prove they are caused by "the impetuosity of the blood's rushing into the lungs," or, "in the air vessels," or, "in blood vessels," or, "in tubercles," or, "in ulcers," or, "in too full feeding," &c. BARTLET quotes from GIBSON, who refers you to MARKHAM or SOLEYSELL, and BRACKEN to BURDON, and so on *ad infinitum*. We are likewise told "the three last distempers are in general incurable:" you are then instructed to proceed with mercurial physic, giving in the intermediate days, the "cinna-ber balls; if they fail try alterative purges; to these follow cordial balls, with balsams of Peru and sulphur, flowers of Benjamin, squills, tar, &c. One to be continued a week or ten days, another a fortnight, and a third for two months *or longer*." When having made this hopeful and *expensive* tour through almost all the MATERIA MEDICA to cure what is "in general incurable," you may enjoy the pleasing sensation of knocking your horse on the head, and most feelingly acknowledge "the remedy worse than the disease."

I shall endeavour to avoid this beaten track of duplicity, and not amuse my readers in
every

every page with "GIBSON directs this," or "BARTLET the other, but communicate some instructions from the dictates of NATURE AND REASON, who have been hitherto most infamously treated, and most shamefully abandoned through every system of equestrian medical practice. In conjunction with this it may not be inapplicable to introduce a few observations respecting the mode of administration I have long since adopted, and endeavoured to strengthen upon every opportunity. For instance, to condemn and explode upon every possible occasion the old and slovenly method of giving medicines of almost every kind in DRINKS (and the equally favourite administration of GLYSTERS) where they can by any means be avoided; (which forty-nine times out of fifty they very well may) always preferring their incorporation with a *masb*, or the contents in a *ball*, where circumstances will permit.

But this plan generally meets opposition from the VULCANIAN ADVOCATES for ancient practice, who would as soon relinquish their leathern aprons as their opinions. The prodigious and consequential ceremony of providing

Wasting the *ale, powders, twitch, horn, and apparatus*, with the additional pleasure of wasting or spilling half the contents, are professional DIGNITIES not to be readily given up; more particularly the *operator's* privilege of drinking a part of the *ale* or *strong beer*, to be perfectly convinced it is not TOO STALE for the purpose. To bring this digression to a speedy crisis, I shall only beg leave to add that twenty years since, observing the general plague in giving drinks, the constant and unavoidable waste in the operation, added to the palpable absurdity of giving the most nauseous medicines in a liquid form, to constitute an unnecessary sickness to the animal, made me reject the practice, determining to adopt a method more rational, neat and consistent, so far as my own advice or influence extended. To this circumstance may be attributed the very few drinks prescribed or recommended in the course of this work: the awkward administration of glysters is likewise rejected, but where they are palpably necessary, and even then the bag and pipe should be the vehicle for injection; the *syringe* being an invention of absolute absurdity, and fit only for such practitioners

tioners as are professed advocates for FUNDAMENTAL ELECTRICITY.

We come immediately from this digression to the treatment of obstinate coughs, of which there are two distinct kinds in effect, though proceeding from the very same cause; whether the result of neglect at the original attack, or inflexibility and non-submission to the mode of practice before recommended, and regularly persevered in. The one may be considered a loose and almost continual cough, increasing to violence upon the least motion, whilst the distinction is easily made by attending to symptoms: the other is a short dry cough, preceded by a husky hollow kind of wheezing, as if respiration was shortened or obstructed by fragments of *hay* or *corn* retained in the passage. This is the kind of cough called *asthma* by those writers who have preceded us, and for which *mercurial* purges have been recommended, and may perhaps come forward with more propriety after the administration of a course of the following balls, should they fail in the desired effect. BLEEDING must be first performed, and occasionally repeated in small quantities, till the glandular inflammation

tion and irritability is reduced, and the blood is so attenuated or divested of its viscidty, by the constant and invariable repetition of the *nitre*, that the circulation may be more freely promoted through the finer vessels of the lungs; as from the obstructions in those finer passages all the difficulties proceed. *Bleeding* having been performed with the necessary circumspection as to quantity, let your two ounces of *nitre* be given without the most trifling remission, every night and morning in the water, as particularized in the first stage of the disorder, continuing one of the following balls every morning for a fortnight or three weeks, that a fair and decisive trial may be obtained.

THE DETERGENT PECTORAL BALL.

Take of Castile soap, aniseed, and liquorice powders, each five ounces;

Barbadoes tar six ounces;

Gum ammoniacum three ounces;

Balsam of Tolu one ounce;

Honey (if required) to make a mass; which divide into a dozen balls.

If the complaint should continue predominant in all its symptoms, notwithstanding these efforts

efforts to relieve, BLEEDING must be repeated; two doses of *mercurial* physic may be given eight days apart, and prepared by the addition of a drachm and a half of calomel to either of the balls, (under the articles of purging) best calculated for the horse's strength and condition. After which repeat the above pectoral balls, with the addition of gum-myrrh, Benjamin, and Venice turpentine, each two ounces, dividing the mass into balls of two ounces each, repeating them every morning till the above proportion (with these additions) are totally consumed.

The long loud hollow COUGH that is almost incessant, and continually increasing upon MOTION or the least hurry in exercise, proceeds equally from irritability and the action of the slimy mucus upon the glands in respiration, as well as the viscosity and cohesion of the blood through the finer passages. This kind of cough I have ever observed to submit with much less difficulty than the ASTHMATIC, requiring only steady and regular perseverance in the plan now laid down to obtain a certain, and, in all probability, a speedy cure. The improvement upon the *cordial ball* of BRACKEN, (so rigidly adhered

adhered to by all those advocates incapable of leaving the beaten track, or judging for themselves) will be cheerfully acknowledged by every judicious and impartial observer, who will readily coincide with me in rejecting the *brimstone*, *turmeric*, and *sugar-candy*, as articles very little adequate to the task they were assigned. In this case, as in the other, *bleeding* must take the lead, followed by a mash compounded of equal parts of *bran* and *oats*, into which must be stirred and dissolved, while hot, *honey* four ounces; and this repeated every night with the two ounces of *nitre* in the water, (as repeatedly directed) without intermission every night and morning.

THE PECTORAL CORDIAL BALL.

TAKE Turkey figs, Spanish liquorice, aniseed and liquorice powders, each four ounces;

Carraway seeds, elecampane, and anisated balsam, each two ounces;

Saffron, ginger in powder, and oil of aniseed, each six drachms;

Honey sufficient to form the mass; and divide into twelve balls, of which let one be given every morning.

The figs and saffron are to be beat to a paste in the mortar, previous to their incorporation with the

the other articles, the Spanish liquorice is to be softened over the fire, by boiling in a small quantity of spring water, and the whole of the ingredients mixed in a manner well understood by those generally concerned in such preparations. These balls are powerfully *cordial* and *restorative*; they promote glandular excretion, warm and stimulate the stomach to the expulsion of wind, enliven the circulation, and invigorate the whole frame, as has been sufficiently ascertained by their instantaneous effect in the chase, where their excellence has been repeatedly established; but more particularly in deep swampy countries, when, after a *severe burst*, or a repetition of *strong leaps*, the horse has been so off his wind, or, in fact, Nature so exhausted, as not to be able to proceed a stroke farther; the immediate administration of a SINGLE BALL has not only afforded instant relief, but the horse gone through the day with his usual alacrity. To say precisely in what time the cure will be complete, is absolutely impossible; the treatment here laid down, and the class of medicines prescribed, will, with care and proper attention, perform all that can be expected from warm cordial pectorals.

N

PLEURISY

PLEURISY AND INFLAMMATION OF THE LUNGS.

To avoid those unnecessary distinctions generally made to swell the work, as well as the tedious repetitions introduced to form a plausible but FALLACIOUS difference between diseases bearing the strictest affinity, (not only originating in the same cause, but depending on the very same treatment for cure) I shall, in this class, proceed to the necessary observations upon what is termed PLEURISY, INFLAMMATION of the LUNGS, BROKEN WIND, and, lastly, CONSUMPTION. The gradations or circumstances of connection are so regular from a *simple cold*, in the first instance, to the disagreeable effects of the latter, as to form a sufficient reason for bringing the whole into rational investigation.

To steer clear of the trammels of imitation, I must avoid the beaten track of BARTLET, who tells you "GIBSON says the pleu-
" *risy*

risy is an inflammation of the *pleura*;" but, as "no ghost need come from the grave to tell us that" we will go a little farther, and, instead of diversifying and mutilating the symptoms to form a deceptive appearance of two distinct diseases, I shall clearly prove them to be not only of the *same family*, but very *nearly* related; for, as the *pleura* is in the medical world universally known to be the membrane immediately covering the *lungs*, every reader may instantly form his own judgment whether the latter can become the principal seat of inflammation without the *pleura's* being proportionally affected by the distention. I have not the least doubt but this *thesis* will sufficiently establish its own weight to prevent a diversity of opinions.

To exclude occasion for more medical or anatomical definitions than are absolutely unavoidable, it must suffice to say the distinction between the diseases are too nice (in this animal) for certain discrimination; *either* displays symptoms common to *both*; and, as the treatment is exactly similar in *each*, no inconvenience can arise from not decisively fixing it upon *one* or the *other*, as in general they are

both affected. I shall, in treating of both, enumerate the certain prognostics; but cannot so far attempt an imposition upon the judgment as to form a string of *imaginary* symptoms, and say (as some have done) that “he looks “to the *right* with the *pleurisy*, and to the “*left* with the *peripneumony*; that he *tries* to “lay down, then he *starts* up;” and a multiplicity of *certainities equally curious*. But as MEN or WOMEN, labouring under the most acute diseases, do not display the *same* attitudes, or indulge in the *same* positions, no more do the different animals of which we now treat; but there are other predominant symptoms, and certain prognostics, that sufficiently enable us to ascertain the seat of disease, particularly in the inflammatory disorders before us.

For instance—the horse is exceedingly dull, heavy in the eyes, drops his head, is restless, perpetually shifting his legs alternately; the fever comes on suddenly, and increases rapidly; his breathing is extremely difficult, the cough short and laboured, exciting great pain. The mouth at first is parched and dry; but when a critical discharge issues from the nostrils,

trils, in consequence of a reduction of the symptomatic inflammation upon the glands of the head and throat, a slimy moisture appears in the mouth likewise; his whole frame bearing evident proofs of universal oppression, that seriously indicates the necessity of expeditious relief.

Having taken a concise but accurate view of the distemper in its external appearance, it becomes immediately necessary to go out of the *usual track*, and explain the *cause* as well as the *symptoms* of disease. As the LUNGS are known to emit in health a greater proportion of perspirable matter for transpiration than any other part, it consequently follows that, upon either a partial or universal obstruction or suppression, they become (by the compulsive absorption of that *very proportion*) the immediate seat of disease; and, where the blood is previously viscid, or in an indifferent state, its tendency to inflammation is *instantly* promoted by the morbidity of the obstructed perspirable matter, which being thrown back upon the *lungs*, they are so overloaded as to be rendered incapable of performing their functions, and passing it into the circulation; inflamma-

tion is then produced; which, according to the nature of the case and certainty of circumstances, must terminate in suffocation, if suffered long to continue its progress without effectual attempts to relieve *Nature* from the burthen she has accumulated. This disease may also be produced by violent exercise upon the *turf*, or exertion in the *field*, when the increased rapidity of circulation (by the action of the solids upon their contents), propels the blood to the smaller passages with so great a degree of velocity as not only to produce immediate inflammation but sometimes to rupture some of the finer vessels, from which BROKEN WIND or CONSUMPTION frequently proceeds.

A sufficient quantity of blood must be *instantly* taken away, to unload the vessels as much as the strength will bear. After this operation have ready some bran and very sweet hay cut small, and scalded together, which place *hot* in the manger, that the FUMES may be imbibed as an internal fomentation to relax the rigidity of the glands, and excite a discharge from the nostrils so soon as possible. The very nature of this case, and the danger to which the horse is exposed, sufficiently

ficiently point out the propriety and consistency of exerting all possible alacrity to obtain relief, or counteract the disease in its *first stage*; therefore let the fumigation of scalded bran and hay be repeated every four or five hours, and the following decoction prepared without delay:

Take pearl barley, raisins split, and Turkey figs sliced, each six ounces;

Stick liquorice bruised, two ounces;

Boil in a gallon of water till reduced to three quarts; strain off; and, while hot, stir in one pound of honey, and, when cold, a pint of distilled vinegar; giving an ounce of nitre in a pint of this decoction every four, five, or six hours, according to the state and inveteracy of disease.

If relief is not obtained so soon as expected, and the horse is costive, give a glyster, with

Two quarts of common gruel;

Coarse sugar six ounces;

Glauber salts four ounces;

Tincture of jalap two ounces;

And a quarter of a pint of olive oil.

This must be repeated in twenty-four hours, or oftener, if necessary.

The diluting drink before prescribed is introduced here in preference to a ball, that its medicinal efficacy may be expeditiously conveyed to the seat of disease. So soon as the wished-for advantages are observed, and the predominant and dangerous symptoms begin to subside, when he labours less in *respiration*, is *brisker* in appearance, *beaves* less in the flank, *dungs* frequently, *stales* freely, *runs* at the nose, *eats* his warm mashies of scalded bran, with four ounces of honey to each, and will *drink* thin gruel for his common drink (in each draught of which should be dissolved two ounces of *cream of tartar*); in short, so soon as every appearance of DANGER is dispelled, the management may be regulated in every particular by the instructions given under the article of COLD in its earliest stage, giving *one* of the following *balls* every morning for a fortnight, leaving off the mashies and diluting drink by degrees, varying the mode of treatment as circumstances may dictate, or occasion may require:

Take Castile soap six ounces;

Gum ammoniacum two ounces;

Annise and cummin seeds in powder, each four ounces;

Honey sufficient to form the mass, which divide into a dozen balls.

To

To prevent any ill effects that may arise from the viscosity of matter that has so long overloaded the vessels of the lungs, or its acrimony, that may, by its retention there, so corrode or lacerate as to form an *ulcer*, or promote the growth of *knots* or *tubercles*, the best method will be, so soon as the horse (with great care, gentle exercise, moderate and regular feeding) has acquired a tolerable proportion of his natural strength, to put him upon the following gentle course of *physic*. And it will become more immediately necessary, where the horse bears about him remnants of the distemper, either in a *gleet* from the *nose*, *rattling* in his *throat*, difficulty of *breathing*, or *heaving* in the *flanks*.

Take succotrine aloes nine drachms;
 Rhubarb and jalap each a drachm and a half;
 Gum ammoniacum, calomel and ginger, each
 a drachm;
 Oil of juniper sixty drops;
 Syrup of buckthorn sufficient to make a ball.

Six clear days or more, if the horse is weak, should be allowed between each dose, and the mode of management regulated by the instructions given under the article of purging.

BROKEN

BROKEN WIND

Is a defect in the part of which we last treated, so that the transition from one to the other is both quick and natural; and sorry I am to acknowledge, that, amidst all the dissections and minute investigations that have taken place, no IMPROVEMENTS or DISCOVERIES have been made that can at all elucidate to *a certainty* the opinions long since gone forth and communicated upon this subject. The most eminent writers, as if determined in this particular to let us remain in “darkness visible,” tell us no more than that all their *strict inquiries*, all their *attentive assiduity* and *inspection*, will furnish them with no better information than “they BELIEVE or SUSPECT the lungs by some means are *too large* for the cavity of the chest, or the chest *too narrow* for the *lungs*.” If this *curious* HYPOTHESIS can be once admitted, the preternatural enlargement of the lungs is, by such reasoning, confirmed a *paradoxical natural deformity*. An attempt to establish so frail an idea would be ridiculous in the extreme; for horses are in general so little seen with external deformities,

deformities, that it would be a palpable proof of *sterility* in *intellect* to suppose a constant and invariable deformity upon *any* part of the *viscera*; particularly *upon the same* in every horse labouring under this defect, and the *very* part so immediately necessary to all the offices of life. It is an opinion I shall never accede to, but am inclined to believe, by examining the matter a little *more attentively*, two very probable reasons may be adduced tending to lead us to a much more RATIONAL opinion of the cause.

For instance, whether horses who have been in the habit of *full* or *foul* feeding, with a very trifling portion of exercise, and without any internal cleansing from evacuations, compulsively obtained by *purgatives* or *diuretics*, may not constantly engender a quantity of *viscid*, *tough*, *phlegmatic* matter; which accumulating by slow degrees may so clog and fill up some of that infinity of minute passages with which the *lungs* are known to abound, as probably to obstruct the air vessels in their necessary expansion for the office of respiration. And whether this very probable obstruction, or partial suppression, may not in sudden, hasty, and

and long continued exertions, rupture others, and by such local deficiency affect the *elasticity* of the *whole*? The probability, and indeed great appearance of this progress, has ever influenced me most forcibly to believe that, such obstructions *once* formed, the evil accumulates, till a multiplicity of the vessels become impervious, and render the *lungs*, by their constant accumulation and distention, too rigid for the great and necessary purpose of respiration.

How far this probable system of obstruction may come into immediate contact with the judgment of others, I am yet to learn; the conjecture naturally arising from a serious and attentive investigation of the case, is submitted to public opinion, as a far more rational mode of explanation than to TRUMPET or RE-ECHO an absurdity that "the lungs are too large for the chest," or a still greater, that "*foul* feeding has made the lungs *fat*," when a survey of the subject shall instantly demonstrate the *carcass* to be evidently POOR.

Whichsoever conjecture may be right respecting the *cause*, one opinion is universal upon the *cure*, if it originates in a natural deformity; for

for, should (according to the credulity of former writers) “the lungs be too large for the chest,” or “the chest too narrow for the lungs,” the effect being directly the same, it is not in the power of art to furnish a cure; the expence to obtain it being therefore superfluous, it had better be avoided. That such a defect may *sometimes* occur, as a chest *too narrow* for *lungs* of an uncommon extension, that constitute naturally what are called thick-winded horses, cannot be denied; and in those cases very little is to be expected from a hope of mitigation or cure.

It cannot but be observed what an anxious desire a BROKEN-WINDED horse always displays to obtain *water*—a self-evident conviction he is rendered uneasy by some glutinous adhesive internal substance, that instinct alone prompts the animal to expect drinking may wash away: on the contrary, if, as BARTLET and GIBSON suppose, “the lungs are too large for the chest,” every thing that increases the bulk of the *abdomen* or *viscera* (and consequently the pressure upon the *diaphragm*) must increase the disquietude, which it is natural to believe, from

from the sagacity of animals in *other* instances; they would in *this* most carefully avoid:

If my HYPOTHESIS is founded in fact, (which circumstances will not allow me the least reason to doubt) a cure may certainly be expected, provided the attempt is made upon the dawn of the disease; but I will by no means admit the *probability* where the original cause has been of long standing, and no attempts made to relieve. A little deliberation will convince every reader that a cure can originate only in such administrations or class of medicines as are evidently calculated in their operations or effects to reach, cleanse, and remove, obstructions in the *very remote* seat of disease.

BLEEDING naturally arises out of this observation, and must be repeated at proper intervals, in moderate quantities, till divested of the coat of size and livid appearance, that are certain prognostics when the *lungs* are obstructed either by *viscosity* or *inflammation*. To promote the necessary evacuations in the first instance, to attenuate the viscosity of the glutinous obstructed matter, and to deterge the passages

passages by a stimulation of the solids, are the only foundations upon which the hope or probability of a cure may be formed; therefore after bleeding go through a regular course of the mild purging balls (prescribed after the horses recovery from the article last treated on); they are slightly impregnated with *mercurial* particles, and, blended with the gums, form a most excellent medicine for the purpose. In three days after the operation of the third dose begin upon the following *detergent* balsamics, and continue to give one ball every morning, so long as may be thought necessary to form a fair opinion whether advantage is gained or relief likely to be obtained :

Take of the best white soap eight ounces ;

Gums guaicum and ammoniacum each three ounces.

Myrrh and benjamin, aniseed and liquorice, each two ounces ;

Balsam of Peru, tolu, and oil of aniseed, each half an ounce ;

Barbadoes tar sufficient to make a mass, which divide into twenty balls.

It is necessary to be strictly observed that, during this course, *hay* and *water* are to be dispensed

dispensed with a very sparing hand, so as to prevent too great an accumulation in the *stomach* or *intestines*, that an observation may be made with the greater certainty, whether any hopes of success from medicine may be justly entertained; if not, farther expence will be unadvisable, as it will appear, after such trial, an *incurable* malady at all events. The better to reconcile us to which, such PALLIATIVES may be occasionally put into use as will naturally be suggested by an attentive perusal of this class, in which the diseases of the *lungs* are the principal objects of investigation.

CONSUMPTION

Is a disease or complication upon which very little need be introduced, but to keep up the appearance of form, and pay the necessary and expected compliment to custom. No appellation, no description of disease, has been more *backneyed*, more *prostituted* and *perverted*, than the very name of CONSUMPTION; it has for ages been an excellent *mask* of *mystery* for the doubts of the FACULTY, and no bad explanatory

tory substitute for the meaning of the *vulgar*, in all those internal decays of the human species, where the *chasm* in the countenance of the DOCTOR, and the ambiguous shake of the head (including the alternate construction of hope and fear), is intended to convince the anxious attendant that symptoms are *obscured* by *circumstances*; and *certainty* not to be *ascertained*.

A consumption may proceed from a non-performance of the functions to which many parts of the animal structure may be destined, not only from ruptures of the blood, or air vessels in the lungs (originating in causes repeatedly described) terminating in *ulcers*, *tubercles*, and *callosities*; but in a *scirrhus* of the *liver*, an *induration* of some of the *glandular* parts, and many other internal complaints or injuries, to which the references by symptoms remote from the seat of pain or disease must be often deceptive, so as in some cases to perplex more than direct. This being a very fair and candid state of the case before us, the reader will do well to collect what information he can from his attentive observations; then compare them with the most predominant symptoms

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toms described under the heads of different diseases, and so adjust his decision as to bring it into that class to which it bears the greatest similitude, and adopt a mode of treatment accordingly. To take this subject in as concise a view as possible (let it proceed from whatever cause), the course of *balsamic restoratives*, and *detergent pectorals*, found under the heads of COLDS, COUGHS, and succeeding articles, with the aids of *bleeding*, *masques*, and such other assistance as may be selected from the variety of prescriptions and instructions so often repeated, render unnecessary any farther observation or animadversion upon this head.

C L A S S VII.

FEVERS, WORMS, AND JAUNDICE.

F E V E R S.

THE observations and reflections, that first induced me to perceive the absolute necessity of some reformation in the practice of FARRIERY, never influenced me more in a conviction of that want, than did a thorough investigation of the subject before us. For BARTLET, in his usual *kind* and *easy* way, says “ he *purposely* avoids giving descriptions of diseases, or so much as *guessing* at the causes *within* which bring them about.” What could have been his motive for “ purposely” concealing what in “ A Practical Treatise” had *every right* to be revealed, I know not; and what his reasons *could be*, I leave entirely to the private opinions of others, making public (upon

THAT circumstance) only ONE of my own; that whoever is a stranger to the origin of disease must be consequently so to every method and rational system of cure.

This being evidently clear to the meanest and most uncultivated comprehension, I must beg leave to observe how much on the contrary GIBSON has *superlatively* obliged us in the very quintessence of prolixity and complication; for, with the reverse of BAATLET'S *reason* and want of patience, he has most elaborately gone through what may be termed a complete system of *imaginary* fevers; and regularly transferred the observations and language of ancient authors upon the diseases of the human species to the constitutions of quadrupeds. He not only tediously describes the *simple* and *continued* fever; the *hectic*, *putrid*, and *pestilential*; but, to prove his attachment to the subject, animadverts upon *quotidians*, *tertians* and *quartans*, enlarging separately upon each; and concludes in an inexplicable jargon upon the whole.

Every intelligent observer must be well convinced of the absurdity of such accumulation,
and

and the improbability (not to say, what might be very well justified, the *impossibility*) of discovering, by no other means than *silent* symptoms and *ocular* inspection (amounting to no kind of demonstration), the origin, cause, or indeed distemper itself, to which there is no *certain* distinction, or palpable proof of existence. And when it is remembered there is no agency in the animal by which the particulars of his pain or distress can be communicated, every judicious and candid reader will admit the impracticability of discriminating between the variety of symptoms, by which alone all this FAMILY OF FEVERS are to be ascertained. It may also be taken into consideration, that animals of this class, from their simple diet and regular mode of living, cannot be subject to such complicated disorders, most of which, in the human species, evidently result from irregularity and indiscretion. Bringing this combination of circumstances into one point of view, I shall avail myself of the advantages naturally arising from observations upon the *political* abstrucity of one, and the *paradoxical* brightness or *technical obscurity* of the other; reducing the whole class of febrile disquietudes simply to two kinds, the symptomatic and inflammatory only.

A symptomatic fever is a degree of inflammation and increased circulation, occasioned by some distinct or local pain, and is not a disorder (*ab origine*) within itself, but palpably the effect of, and dependent upon, some other for its production. This fever is so influenced by the cause, and so entirely regulated by its changes, either for *better* or *worse*, as to be constantly reduced by an alleviation of the original complaint, and *totally* dispelled by a removal of the disease, to which it is a concomitant. This fever being only a symptom of some other, (the mere effect of preternatural heat excited by extreme pain), and not a distinct disease, stands in need of no elucidation; let the original cause be removed, and the effect will cease of course.

It has been repeatedly urged by authors of repute, that every fever is one and the same disorder, appearing differently according to the various circumstances it meets with in different constitutions. Much may be advanced in favour of this assertion; but, it not being our present purpose to enter upon the discussion of so extensive a subject, we will contract it as much as the nature of the disease will admit,
and

and venture to affirm the fever to which horses are most subject is that distinct kind called inflammatory. To produce that preternatural heat or increased circulation, constituting what is termed fever, there must be some pre-existing cause, to discover the true seat of which great nicety of discrimination is unavoidably necessary; here is no information to be collected but by the *hand* and the *eye*; the first should be sanctioned by JUDGMENT and EXPERIENCE, the latter regulated by REASON and OBSERVATION.

For want of due attention to these salutary considerations, many fine and valuable horses have been hastily and dictatorially sentenced to pass that "bourn from whence no traveller returns." And here it can neither be thought inapplicable or intrusive to remind every person employed in the practice, under the denomination of FARRIER, that frequently upon his *learned decision alone* depends the LIFE or DEATH of this most valuable animal. He should not only be accurately nice in the discrimination of disease; but, by attending minutely to circumstances, endeavour to develop the mysterious indications of Nature, cover all

her wants, and strengthen every effort; for she is tenacious of her many powerful privileges, and will not bear too "insolent a monitor." To become the more adequate to this task of integrity, he should be anxiously careful to improve his judgment, and adapt the known qualities of medicines to the expectation of their effects; to have in view, upon every emergency, the operations from which certain or probable relief is to be obtained; and to promote those ends by every *fair* and *gentle* means that may be justified by circumstances, or dictated by discretion.

To enter into a tedious medical disquisition upon the origin of fevers, their different degrees and effects, would exhaust the *patience* of the most *patient* inquirer; I shall consequently avoid so unentertaining a detail, and adhere to such explanatory parts as become more immediately the objects of information. To enumerate the possible causes in which a fever may originate would be, in this work, equally impracticable; they are so much more symptomatic than self-existing, that circumstances and careful attention only must lead to the discovery.

There

There is not the least doubt but a general cutaneous obstruction, or sudden constriction upon the perspirable pores, (proceeding from what cause soever,) will constitute the foundation of every fever to which the animal can possibly be subject: the matter destined for perspiration, being forcibly returned upon the vessels, is absorbed into the circulation; the blood being thus corrupted becomes viscid, the passages are evidently overloaded, and Nature, by an increase of circulation in the velocity of the blood, endeavours to relieve herself from the oppression, which in this disease she so evidently labours under.

In respect to symptoms, the inspection should be made with care and attention; the general modes of inquiry are SUPERFICIAL, and the decision often FALLACIOUS. The pathognomonic, or certain signs, are an universal heat and disordered pulse, a palpable disquietude and uneasiness, shifting from place to place; the subject labours under difficult respiration, his mouth is very dry, his tongue parched and hot, he declines food, but receives water; sometimes seizes his hay with seeming eagerness, then drops it in disappointment: the body is generally costive,
and

and in the early state of disease, there is a proportional obstruction of urine. Let a fever proceed from whatever cause, the indications of cure are still the same; diminish the preternatural heat to the degree that constitutes its healthy state, remove all internal obstructions; and, by a proper and judicious administration of medicines (calculated to subdue the original cause), all dependent symptoms will certainly subside.

The first necessary step to a rectification of such inflammatory or diseased state of the blood is a reduction in quantity, therefore instantly *bleed* according to strength and circumstances. If the horse is *costive* in body, the excrements hard, dark in colour, and foul in smell; the symptoms of disease powerful, with strong heaving in the flanks, do not delay the assistance of the following emollient glyster, which, being composed of ingredients entirely DOMESTIC, may be most expeditiously provided :

Take water gruel two quarts ;
Coarse sugar half a pound ;
Common salt four ounces (or single handful) ;
Olive oil a quarter of a pint.—Mix together, and inject moderately warm.

This

This, by its gentle relaxing property, will probably promote desirable evacuations in both stool and urine; being equal to any other that can be prescribed for the purpose, however prepared with articles remote from present practice, or difficult to be obtained. If obstructions should not be removed, or the necessary evacuations ensue, repeat the operation in four hours after; strengthening your injection with two ounces of *lenitive electuary*, and three ounces of *glauber salts*, both being dissolved in the gruel. This will produce certain evacuations, as the first by its retention will have relaxed the indurated contents of the intestines, and rendered them ready for immediate expulsion, by the active power of the additional stimulants here prescribed. In two or three hours after such evacuations (or sooner if seemingly requisite) let a mash of *scalded bran* be placed in the manger, to which, if he refuses, a handful of oats may be added by way of inducement; if still declined, let them be removed and a small quantity of very sweet hay be left in the rack. Let him be gently rubbed over, moderately clothed, and well littered up with clean dry straw, after giving him one ounce of *nitre* dissolved in a small

Small draught of warm water, slightly impregnated with a proportion of thin gruel.

Previous to farther DIRECTIONS for the treatment of fevers, or INSTRUCTIONS for the preparation of medicine, it becomes unavoidably necessary to say something upon the quality and indiscriminate use of that excellent article *nitre*, the purposes of which are so frequently prostituted in its general application by *all* classes, and in *all* cases, in compliment to BARTLET'S *unlimited* eulogiums; who has not only, in a variety of instances, blended it in composition with its *opposites* in *effect*, but stamped it with *his* opinion so great a specific, that a few observations on its virtues and *real uses* become immediately necessary to the propriety of its future administration being better understood,

That it is *cooling*, allays *thirst*, promotes the *secretions*, and is an useful assistant likewise in a course of *alteratives*, is admitted; but how far it is eligible to give it in *fevers*, in the *very large* proportions recommended by BARTLET, will be best decided by giving the matter a farther investigation. For instance, he urges the administration of it to attenuate and thin the
dense

dense fizy blood, during the effect of inflammatory fever; this property of attenuation being allowed, what must be the natural conclusion or consequence of giving such large quantities as "*three or four ounces three times a day?*" Why every *professional man*, knowing the mode by which it *must* inevitably affect the system of circulation, would naturally expect it to dissolve the very crassamentum of the blood, and reduce it to an absolute *serum* or aqueous vapour.

That *nitre* has its peculiar good qualities and salutary effects when *prudently* administered, no rational practitioner will ever deny; but the variety of experiments repeatedly made upon its efficacy, by the most eminent professors since the practice of GIBSON, BRACKEN, and BARTLET, has undoubtedly deprived it of a *considerable portion* of its former estimation, and it is now reduced to that rank of merit only experimentally found to fall to its share. Taking it therefore with the properties it is possessed of and entitled to, not looking up to it as the *grand arcanum* of infallibility, or *medical idolization*, I venture to pronounce its good effects can only be obtained by judicious administrations of such proportions as are properly calculated

calculated to promote the purposes for which they are designed. Its properties and effects being NOW more generally ascertained than FORMERLY, the inconsistency of blending it (in large quantities) with medicines intended to promote perspiration is palpably striking; as it is well known to every medical practitioner, its intermediation would rather tend to destroy the earnest intent of the whole.

On the contrary, given in small quantities of *half an ounce* or *ounce*, once or twice a day in the beginning of fevers, with *good nursing*, *moderate clothing*, *warm masbes*, and *diluting drinks* of thin gruel, it may frequently have a very good effect; but, should the predominant symptoms not submit to that treatment, no *larger* doses of *nitre* should be ventured upon to hazard a too great and sudden dissolution of the blood, or an obstruction to the critical perspiration, upon which a speedy cure very much depends.

Upon the non-submission of symptoms to these means, the following gentle system must be adopted and regularly continued, to relax the rigidity of the pores, and produce a pliability of the surface, preparatory to the perspirable crisis, which

which it is now become necessary to solicit, by every proper medicine that can be offered for that purpose. To promote this, give one of the following balls, and let it be repeated every six or eight hours as may be found necessary :

Take mithridate six drachms ;
Aniseed and compound contrayerva powders each half an ounce ;
Snake root in powder two drachms ;
Salt of hartshorn one drachm ;
Syrup of Saffron sufficient to make a ball.

But where the administration of medicine in this form may be objected to, or a drink thought more convenient, the following may be substituted in its stead :

Take of the strong infusion of camomile (commonly called camomile tea) half a pint ;
Mindererus's spirit a quarter of a pint ;
Saffron wine two ounces ;
Antimonial wine one ounce.—Mix together.

This drink, or one of the above balls, may be continued every six or eight hours according to the emergency, till relief is obtained, or circumstances urge an alteration in the mode of treatment

treatment. Small quantities of drink (about two quarts) should be given once in three or four hours, prepared in the proportion of a quart of thick gruel to a gallon of water; in each draught of which may be given half an ounce of *nitre*, or an ounce of *cream of tartar*, with the farther addition of a quarter of a pint of the following acidulated liquid, separately prepared for the purpose.

Take of good honey one pound;

Best vinegar a pint and a half; boil over the fire a few minutes, taking off the scum, and set by for use.

Should any swellings appear upon the glands of the head or neck, a cough come on, or a critical discharge be perceived at the nostrils, keep the head warm that the flux may be promoted to that part.

If the predominant symptoms should not submit in four-and-twenty, or six-and-thirty hours, attend to those most alarming, and proceed to their mitigation accordingly; if still costive, repeat the laxative glyster, or the following drink.

Take

Take Epsom salts and cream of tartar, each three ounces ;

Soluble tartar one ounce; dissolve in three quarters of a pint of thin gruel ; then add tincture of jalap half an ounce, and tincture of senna two ounces—Mix.

Should the cough increase *bleed* in proportion : if the urine is small in quantity, high in colour, or deposit a turbid sediment upon being saved, give *nitre* frequently, and in small proportions, as before directed. During all the tedious ceremony of indisposition wait with patience, and attend to the indications of *Nature* more than the bewildered doubts and prognostics of the FARRIER, who, knowing little of the *anatomical structure*, less of the *animal economy*, and totally incapable of forming any *consistent* idea of the properties of medicine, stands a perplexed stranger to both *causes* and *events*, professionally insensible to the foundation of either *hope* or *fear*.

In difficult and alarming cases recourse must always be had to the different prescriptions introduced under their proper classes, *varying, increasing, and diminishing*, the articles or proportions, according to the state of symptoms or dis-

ease for which they are prescribed. Upon a horse's improvement, every sign in *food, water, ease, and rest*, is so evidently calculated to give ample proof of speedy recovery, that any recital of circumstances so readily distinguished would be entirely superfluous. Therefore naturally concluding every intelligent observer will plainly perceive, when his horse is getting out of danger, how *soon* medicine is unnecessary, and *when* perfectly recovered; I consider it only necessary to observe, where the distemper has been violent, and the inflammatory symptoms ran high, so as to leave any perceptible taint upon either *eyes* or *lungs*, in a heaviness upon the *first*, or an oppression upon the *latter*, a course of mild purgatives selected from the *purging balls*, (No. 1. or 2.) p. 21, will be very necessary and advantageous; letting it be clearly understood that no such plan is to be adopted if a termination of the disorder should happen in the severe part of the winter, when a course of *mild diuretics* are to be preferred, as particularized in p. 75; remembering that *neither* can be proceeded upon till the horse is so much recovered in strength and appearance as to render unnecessary any fear of local or constitutional weakness. The mode of treatment here laid down, and strenuously

strenuously recommended, is a system established upon the principles of *reason* and *reformation*; not the effusion of wild chimerical experiments, engendered by *folly* and promoted by *ignorance*, but a course of practice (exposed to no lottery of *chance* or certainty of *danger*), the result of *attentive study*, accurate OBSERVATION, and long EXPERIENCE.

Having thus unavoidably enlarged upon the nature and treatment of such *febrile* complaints as frequently come under common observation, I shall advert to the necessary consideration of those diseases called *epidemic* or *malignant*; and are so termed from their being in general contagious or infectious, and at certain times local or fixed to particular parts of the kingdom; at other seasons almost universal, bearing in either case the common term of "a distemper among the horses." As *epidemic* diseases appear differently at different seasons, varying in symptoms, for which no exact cause can be ascertained or reason supported, but the excessive *drought* of one season, or *dense atmosphere* of another, it must evidently appear that, under such circumstances, no accurate description of corresponding symptoms can be collected from books,

without a very minute and proper attention to the nature of attack.

To these leading traits all the judgment and penetration of the FARRIER, or *superintendant*, must be directed; for, as such disorders are in general complicated, and not distinguishable under any *particular* head, but partaking of *many*, every striking symptom should be well observed and distinguished from its opposite, or classed with its concomitant, till a parallel being drawn between its most predominant features, some degree of certainty is ascertained, to which class it bears the *greatest* affinity, or to what head it *properly* belongs. And as this work abounds with medicinal aids, carefully adapted to *every* purpose, the reader cannot possibly be so destitute of comprehension, as not to be enabled (upon particular occasions) to make some necessary alterations, as the intent and effect of the medicines prescribed are in general pointed out and sufficiently explained.

We will, therefore, in consequence of the great fatality attending EPIDEMIC disorders, conclude they are more entitled to consideration as *pestilential* disease than any other: admitting
this

this conception to be clear, it becomes necessary to say enough to make the subject sufficiently understood, without protracting it to an extreme of medical *minutiæ* that cannot tend to render the matter more profitable or entertaining. In those diseases where the origin cannot be ascertained the cure becomes a matter of greater obscurity; but, in general, proceeding from whatever cause, the *blood* is in an impoverished state, and the *crassamentum* found, upon evacuation, to be dissolved (or liquefied) very much *below* the standard of health; for, being deprived of the due proportion of its stimulative property, it becomes consequently inadequate to its peculiar purpose of circulation. The whole *arterial* system being thus deprived of its *natural* supply that should be conveyed in proportional distributions to every part of the frame, becomes too feeble to sustain the shock; and, sinking under the *putrid* or *malignant miasma*, displays the degree of oppression nature labours under in symptoms so very *uncertain*, that no literary description can accurately correspond with.

It will therefore (as repeatedly recommended) prove highly necessary to attend particularly to

symptoms, and proceed accordingly. At any rate *blood* should be immediately drawn upon the very first appearance of disease (in QUANTITY corresponding with CONDITION), that its *quality* may be the better ascertained. Should obstructions be observed in the body, they must be directly removed by gently stimulating or emollient *glysters*; the appetite should be attended to, and gratified in mashes of *malt* and *bran*, *bran* and *oats*, or *plain bran*, stirring into either of the last, while hot, four ounces of *honey*. Common drink of gruel water, impregnated with *nitre* or *cream of tartar*, as before directed, may be given as occasion requires. Every five, six, eight, or ten hours (according to the state and danger of the disease), let one of the following ALEXIPHARMIC BALLS be administered, first removing any intestinal obstruction of *stool* or *urine*, should such be present.

Take of Venice treacle six drachms;
Compound powder of contrayerva, snake-root,
saffron, and London philonium, each two drachms;
Syrup (if necessary) to make the ball.

Or where, in compliment to ancient practice, a drink may be preferred as more applicable or convenient, the following may be prepared:

Take

Take of genuine Peruvian bark in powder, six drachms;

Compound contrayerva and snake-root in powder, each two drachms;

Saffron and ginger each a drachm;

Best Brandy a quarter of a pint;

Water half a pint;

Let the saffron be cut very small, and infused in the boiling water, covered close for a quarter of an hour; then having the other ingredients ready in a mortar, add the brandy first; and, lastly, mix with the infusion of saffron, and give without waste if possible.

In an hour after either the *ball* or *liquid* two or three quarts of the gruel drink may be given warm, and future proceedings regulated by symptoms and circumstances: increasing appearances of DANGER must justify exertions of ALACRITY and FORTITUDE. Enlarge your quantities, and multiply your doses, aiding your judgment by frequent references to the different prescriptions under similar symptoms: proportion your medicines by the dictates of reason and the degree of hazard to which the patient is exposed.

Should any critical swellings or formations of matter appear at the decline of *fever* [or *epidemic*

case, their suppuration and discharge must be promoted by the rules laid down under those heads; observing, if a horse displays in his general habit (as eyes, heels, &c.) a great degree of *foulness*, to embrace the first opportunity of carrying it off by the insertion of a *rowel*, and regular course of either *antimonial* or *mercurial alteratives*, which ever upon inquiry may appear most applicable to the case.

On the contrary, should the original complaint so relax the stomach, impair the digestive powers, or debilitate the system, as to produce an irregularity in habit, bearing alternate appearance of HEALTH and SICKNESS, corresponding in some degree with the *intermittents* or *agues* of our own species, *cordial stomachic restoratives* are the medicines upon which the expectation of cure may be with most certainty formed; therefore prepare the following balls;

Take of Peruvian bark in powder four ounces;
Mithridate (or diacordium) two ounces;

Winter's bark, snake-root, and camomile in powder, each one ounce;

Honey sufficient to make a mass, which divide into six balls.

Of

Of these let one be given every night and morning when the horse is in a state of temperance, perceptibly free from every appearance of extreme heat or cold, continuing them till double the above are taken, should the case require it. Where a drink is preferred one of the balls may be gradually dissolved in three quarters of a pint of thin gruel, to which may be added a common glass of good brandy. As there are no more cases coming into an exact line of similitude with those we have now treated on, we of course come to such as (from their frequent occurrence) rank in equal estimation.

W O R M S.

WHAT inveterate obstacles these insects are to a horse's improvements, where they have unluckily gained possession, *time* and *experience* have sufficiently demonstrated. They are of so pernicious and destructive a tendency that, having once secured a settlement in either stomach or intestines, the horse becomes a prey to perpetual depredation till effectual methods are

are taken for their total extirpation. The worms with which horses are so frequently persecuted, are, to appearance, of many different sorts and shapes; but the kinds most generally known and observed are the two distinct kind of BOTS, and the ASCARIDES or small short *worm*.

The different BOTS are remarkable for taking their seats as opposite to each other in the animal as they are in their own formation; for the BOT, whose residence seems fixed in the *stomach*, and in the interstices or folds, of which the eggs are said to have been discovered upon dissection, is not at all unlike (in shape and make) the earth GRUB WORM, so singularly remarkable for its destructive havock upon the roots of the strawberries, in large plantations, in the early part of the season, particularly in dry springs. They are furnished not only with a complete pair of prominent tusks, that grow horizontally from the head, having great power of compression, and exceedingly sharp at the point, but an infinity of legs so minutely fine, that even a momentary inspection will instantly remove every degree of surprise at their causing
such

such excruciating pain upon a part so exquisitely irritable as the nervous coat with which the internal membrane of the stomach is most delicately covered.

The second sort are seen frequently adhering to the rectum, or internal part of the fundament, in the action of voiding the excrements; and are often forced away with the contents. To give the reader a conception of these perfectly clear, it is impossible to communicate or receive a stronger idea than a formation directly midway between a very small earth worm and a millepedes, or woodlouse, partaking of the length of the former, and the feet of the latter, extremely sharp, and exceedingly numerous. Immediately after their ejection they continue to writhe and twirl most rapidly upon the surface of the dung, bearing great affinity to the action of an eel when taken from its natural element and placed upon land.

There is also sometimes seen adhering closely to the same parts, and discharged in the same manner, an indolent kind of BOR, appearing almost inanimate, that keeps its hold only by a point like the *leech*, and is, in form, exactly like the *grub*, or *worm*, that may be so plentifully
extracted

extracted (by pressure only) from those prominences perceptible upon the backs of horned cattle during the hot months in the summer season.

Thus much is introduced to prove the *variety* of those insects, in general so prejudicial to the frame when once they have gained admission, or secured their seats; respecting which such a diversity of opinions have been broached, and nothing finally satisfactory ascertained of their origin, either in the human species or brute creation. Some avow their *animalculæ*, or *eggs*, to take place in the impurities of slimy mucus, accumulated in the stomach, and there brought to perfection; others assert their formation and consequent progress to be carried on in the intestines; and many are not without belief that the *animalculæ*, or *eggs*, are conveyed into the body with a part of the vegetable world upon which they subsist, and there brought to their state of perfection.

I shall barely venture to hint at the *possibility* of their undergoing (in shape or appearance) in the different parts of the body, as the *stomach*, *intestines*, or *rectum*, those changes that
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we well know take place in the *silk worm*, *caterpillar*, &c. *Seeming* to constitute a different species, though the contrary is universally proved by even ocular demonstration of the very act of *mutation*. As enlarging upon the great consistency and probability of this circumstance can only extend the field for imagination, without adding at all to the utility or elucidation of the subject, that indeterminate point shall remain undisturbed, while we proceed to the more material investigation of consequences and cure.

Whatever doubts or opinions may have been held, or gone forth, respecting their origin or different kinds, one opinion has been long universal upon their effects; that is, where they have taken possession for any length of time, or in any great degree as to number, no *care*, *art*, or *attention*, can give your horse the appearance of HILARITY, HEALTH, and CONDITION. He is in perpetual anxiety for a constant supply of either food or water, and in return but poorly repays the gratification; for, in the midst of all, he seldom, or *indeed never*, looks well; after having been some time a prey to them he gets low in flesh, hard in his hide,
his

his coat stares, he always seems dejected, sweats upon trifling exercise, and that sweat perceptibly unhealthy, and remarkably foul in effluvia.

The smaller kind of BOTS, and the ASCARIDES, or small round worms, are attended in general with no other symptoms or inconveniences than the last described; on the contrary the BOTS, whose station is supposed (hitherto) to be confined to the *stomach*, when strong in number and come to maturity, are so severe in their operations that the great irritability of the part occasions the most excruciating pain and predominant appearance of distress. The horse is not only distressed with all the before mentioned proofs of bad state of body and internal decay, but likewise to violent periodical pains, approaching to convulsions or seeming madness; he displays all the external symptoms of *gripes*, *spasms* in the *stomach*, *strangury*, nay even of a *complication* of *disorders*; but where the evacuations of stool and urine are not suppressed, the original complaint may be attributed to this cause.

Of all the various methods that have been adopted in rational and regular practice (or the experiments under adventurous sanction), none
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can lay such claim to approbation as that certain and indubitable cure—a course of *mercurial* physic. *Antimonials* and preparations of *tin* have had each their advocates, as well as those botanical deceptives, *rue*, *garlic*, *tansy*, *savin*, and *box*; all calculated to amuse, but none to convince. Experience has determined the specific effects of *mercurials* in this case absolutely infallible; before the power of which every species of worms, and their *oviparous* remains, indiscriminately fall, and are totally extirpated without admitting the shadow of doubt. So soon therefore as they are suspected, or at least so soon as they are ascertained, to have taken possession, it will be prudent to prevent a horse being hurt in appetite, reduced in flesh, or altered in condition (by their constantly preying upon the internal coat of the stomach, and injuring those minute passages through which the chyle or nutritive parts of the aliment is conveyed into the circulation, for the general support of the frame), to proceed upon some one of the following courses without delay.

Prepare your horse for the course of physic by the instructions given under that head page 20; and let your dose be adapted to the strength,

strength, size, and condition of your subject, by these rules; if the horse is thorough bred and delicate in shape and make,

To the purging ball, No. 1, add calomel one drachm and a half.

If the horse is beyond this pitch of delicacy, stronger in make, and more entitled to the appellation of HUNTER, showing some proportion of BLOOD,

Take the purging ball, No. 2, to which add calomel two drachms.

Should the subject be of a still stronger make, constituting what we term a STOUT ROAD HORSE,

To the purging ball, No. 3, add calomel two drachms and a half.

If on the contrary very large, strong, foul WAGGON HORSES, or powerful COACH HORSES, should become the subjects, they will very well bear the following, to produce the proper and desired effects:

Take

Take the purging ball, No. 4, to which add calomel three drachms.

By the operation of the first dose upon either subject, observation may be made whether diminution in the purgative articles is required, or any addition found necessary. Proper care must be used to avoid every probability of taking cold, and the regular course of three doses gone through, at the distance of six or eight clear days between each. But, as the prevalent love of novelty may with some produce the expectation of an alternative, the following PURGING BALL will be as certainly efficacious; observing to add of *jalap two drachms* to the present prescription, if the horse should be either of the two last classes described.

Take of Barbadoes aloes ten drachms;

Æthiop's mineral six drachms;

Cream of tartar and India rhubarb each two drachms;

Ginger in powder one drachm;

Oil of aniseed thirty drops;

Syrup of buckthorn or roses to make the ball.

The course of operation to be managed with the same care and precaution as those before prescribed; the least doubt of their

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efficacy

efficacy need not be indulged, as a course of *either* will certainly obliterate them from every part of the intestinal canal, and the subject will, in a very few days, with proper care, attention, food, and exercise, evidently demonstrate his advantage in being perfectly relieved from such disagreeable company. But as there will most undoubtedly be horses troubled with WORMS in the possession of those who, from the nature of their avocations, cannot submit them to so long a respite from business, as is necessary for a regular course of *purging medicines*, it will naturally be expected an effectual substitute should be held forth for the gratification of all parties.

To those therefore who cannot render the administration of MERCURIAL *purgatives* a matter of perfect convenience, the following course may be adopted with the greatest certainty of equal effect.

Take of Æthiop's mineral and levigated antimony, each four ounces ;

Sulphur, prepared steel, and aniseed powder, each three ounces ;

Honey sufficient to make a mass, which divide into nine balls.

Of these let one be given *every morning* for *three* in succession ; then omit *three*, and repeat for *three more* in succession ; then omit for *three* mornings a *second* time, and repeat your remaining balls on the *three* successive mornings, when the *whole nine* will be consumed, and certainly productive of the purpose for which they are intended. The great advantage attending this method of destroying worms, is the horse's being enabled to pursue his constant work, but care should be taken he is not too much exposed to severe cold, or rainy weather, during the time of taking the balls.

For the accommodation of those to whom the business of giving a ball may be a work of trouble or difficulty, the *honey* may be omitted; and the other ingredients, being well incorporated in a mortar, must be divided into nine equal parts, and mixed with the night or morning feeds of corn, (it being first sprinkled with water in the manger, to ensure adhesion and prevent waste) being given with the same distinctions and variations in respect to time, as specified in the above instructions, when given in the form of *balls*.

J A U N D I C E,

COMMONLY CALLED

T H E Y E L L O W S.

THIS is a disorder common to horses of every description, to which they are subject from various causes; the most material of these we shall accurately explain. The more simple and least dangerous complaint, passing under this denomination, arises solely from an obstruction in the biliary ducts, or in the gall bladder, situated between the two lobes of the liver; whose immediate purpose it is to assist in secreting the bile from the blood, and promote its conveyance to the intestines, where (by its acrid and stimulating property) it is destined to excite the peristaltic motion, by which they expel their contents.

In the jaundice arising from this cause, the ducts or pipes for the passage of bile are obstructed by *slime, mucus, or viscid coagulum*; the

the fluid, thus impeded in its usual progress, regurgitates, becomes immediately incorporated with the blood, and through the system of circulation diffuses itself to every part of the frame, denoting its presence by an early appearance of yellowness in the *eyes, mouth, tongue,* and *saliva*. To these pathognomonic or invariable symptoms may be added those not altogether so certain in its early state; the horse generally seems heavy, dull, and dejected, with loss of appetite and consequent rejection of food, more than will barely subsist nature; a slight symptomatic fever soon comes on, and keeps pace with the disease; a sluggishness or aversion to motion is plainly perceptible; a foul, faint sweat appears upon the least exercise; and the urine is of a dark saffron tinge, resembling an infusion of that article: the dung varies much in different subjects, but is IN ALL many degrees paler, and more indigested, than the excrements of horses in high condition.

The indications of cure naturally arise out of the very description of the disease; to affect which there will be but little difficulty, provided it is taken upon its first appearance, when it may most probably be totally removed by

the following interposition of MILD DEOBSTRUENTS, without recurring to a course of *purgatives*, which may not at all times be perfectly convenient. If, on the contrary, the disorder should have been observed some time, a *course of physic* must precede other intentions of cure, as will be hereafter explained. If discovered in its earliest state, let two or three *mashes* of *scalded malt* be given at proper periods, to relax the indurated contents of the intestines, these being assisted, if necessary, with an emollient, or the domestic laxative *glyster*, as mentioned page 202. The body being sufficiently relaxed to remove every probability of obstruction, let the following plan be adopted and regularly persevered in.

Take of Castile soap eight ounces ;
Turmeric in powder six ounces ;
Soluble tartar three ounces ;
India rhubarb two ounces ;
Long pepper in powder one ounce ;
Saffron half an ounce ;
Syrup or honey sufficient to make the mass ;
Which divide into *ten* balls, and give one every morning.

During

During this course, every requisite attention must be paid to *appetite*, *food*, and *gentle exercise*; *mashes of malt and bran* may be given every or every other night, to keep the body properly lax, and regular in evacuation; to assist which two ounces of *cream of tartar* may be added once a day, in the morning or evening water, being previously dissolved in a pint over the fire, and added to the remainder.

The disease, if arising from the cause before-mentioned, and attacked in its infancy, will generally submit to the above course and treatment only; but in more advanced cases double the quantity may be found necessary, with the addition of *mild physic* or *moderate bleeding*. This is certain, where the complaint has not been attended to in its *early* state, and symptoms are so high as to substantiate a degree of virulence, the *physic*, and a repetition of the above proportion, had better be adopted. Although there is no very predominant reason to be urged in favour of *bleeding*, yet a small quantity may be lost, not only to ascertain its present *state*, but to promote a slight change in the circulation. Two or three *mashes* must be given on the two successive days after bleeding; on the third

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morning

morning give the first of the following PURGING BALLS, repeating it at the distance of six or eight days between each dose, till *three* are taken, regulating the whole course by the treatment so often repeated, and the precaution necessarily urged to avoid cold ; more particularly where the *cathartics* are impregnated with *mercury*, as in the present instance.

Take succotrine aloes one ounce ;
India rhubarb and jalap each three drachms ;
Saffron two drachms ;
Calomel and ginger each a drachm ;
Syrup of saffron sufficient to form the ball for one dose.

This ball is so accurately proportioned as to be nearly applicable in strength to any subject for this distemper, where no *violent* effects are to be required ; but should any alteration in force be desired for a horse remarkably strong, or delicate in constitution, increase or diminish its strength, by an addition to, or diminution of, the *jalap* ; the other ingredients remaining in their present proportions.

In three days after the last dose is completely set, and the horse recovered his appetite, begin
upon

upon the following course of warm deobstruent restoratives, giving one every morning without remission till the whole are taken ;

Take Castile soap eight ounces ;

Turmeric and filings of iron each four ounces ;

Aniseed and elecampane each two ounces ;

Vitriolated tartar one ounce and a half ;

Oil of aniseed three drachms.—Honey sufficient to make the mass ; and divide into a dozen balls.

During the time of taking these, let the former instructions relative to food, exercise, dressing, &c. be strictly adhered to, with such other little attentions as circumstances require ; remembering to relinquish the medicines by gradations, as every other morning, or once in *three*, but not to discontinue them entirely till *all* symptoms totally disappear.

The distinct kind of this disease, arising from a remote and very *discouraging* cause, is that species originating in an *induration* of (or *scirr-bosities* upon) the *liver*. I say discouraging, because LITTLE or NO hope of permanent relief can be entertained, as may very naturally be concluded from even a superficial consideration of the case, not only by its remote situation
so

so distant from the power of the most active medicine ; the great certainty of no advantage being obtained but by the *circuitous* communication through the medium of the blood, and the additional reflection, palpably clear to the judgment of every reader, that no *solvent* can probably be conveyed through the circulation *only*, sufficiently powerful to resolve or extirpate either *swelling*, *scirrhusity*, or *tubercle*, upon a part so distant from the seat of action as that we now treat of.

As the necessary steps for PALLIATION of symptoms, or HOPE of *cure*, will consequently be expected, *bleeding* is of course premised to reduce the contents and take off some degree of stricture from the vessels ; remove obstructions in the body by *mashes* of *malt* and *bran*, for two or three days as before directed, then proceed to the course of *mercurial* purging balls here recommended, attending to the mode of treatment so often repeated :

Take Barbadoes aloes one ounce ;

Castile soap half an ounce ;

Jalap and calomel each two drachms ;

Ginger one drachm ;

Oils of juniper and aniseed each twenty drops ;

Syrap sufficient to form the ball for one dose

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This course (of *three* doses) and their operations being minutely attended to, let no care or attention be omitted to bring him as near his former pitch of *strength, appetite* and *appearance* as possible ; so soon as he has resumed which, a beginning may be made upon the *last* resources, and from these *only* can the most distant hope of MITIGATION or CURE be formed.

Take of Castile soap ten ounces ;

Gum ammoniacum and turmeric each four ounces ;

Salt of tartar three ounces ;

Extract of black hellebore and oil of favin each six drachms ;

Syrup or honey sufficient to make twelve balls.

Of these let one be given regularly every other morning ; on the intermediate days give one of the following *mercurial alterative* powders, calculated to give joint assistance without delay, and promote every advantage that can be expected by all possible means, adapted to this distant cause of complaint :

Take

Take Æthiop's mineral, prepared antimony, Sulphur and cream of tartar, of each three ounces. Mix together in the mortar, and divide into twelve papers, giving one, with the feed of corn, every other morning, sprinkling the corn with water to prevent its waste in the manger.

The above balls are calculated (by their peculiar efficacy) to strike at the very root of disease; the reputation of *each* article having been long established either as a *solvent* or *deobstruent*, and evidently adapted to act in concert for the general purpose; no farther experiments or changes need be attempted or undertaken, as this course will absolutely effect *all* that is in the power of medicine to perform. And should they fail (after fair trial) in the intent for which they may be given, a rupture of the *tumour*, and its becoming *ulcerated*, or a *scirrhus* of the *liver* constantly increasing, will (in opposition to all art and every human endeavour) usher in *death* to close the scene, and demonstrate the *fallibility* of all our boasted *specifics*.

Horses are also said to be subject to a regurgitation of bile, from an inflammatory affection of the liver, when occasioned by the bite of any
venomous

venomous insect or animal, as the viper, flow-worm, land-eft, &c. whether such inflammation or bilious appearance is produced by the bite or not, if there are other local symptoms, as swelling, pain, and inflammation, bleeding becomes immediately proper; then let the part be well washed with soap and warm water, so as to raise a substantial lather; wipe dry with a cloth, and bathe the surrounding parts for some minutes with equal portions of fine olive oil and white wine vinegar; afterwards apply a poultice of emollient ingredients, as may be selected by referring to the index, and let it be repeated twice a day till the swelling or symptoms subside. Should the horse be attacked with violent symptomatic fever to a great degree, adopt the methods recommended in that class; at any rate give one ounce of *nitre* twice a day in his water, and assist in cooling the body by *masbes* to relax, prepared with *malt* and *bran* equal parts, or *oats*, *bran*, and a few ounces of *honey*.

CLASS VIII.

THE STRANGLES, GLANDERS, STAGGERS, AND CONVULSIONS.

STRANGLES.

NOT one feasible reason has ever been adduced why this disease is so general that any horse is hardly ever known to escape; they are even subject to it at all times of life; but the periods of attack are mostly when rising *three, four, or five* years old. SOLEYSELL and GIBSON vainly conceived they threw great light upon the subject, by comparing it to the small-pox, "because," say they, "young horses are generally its subjects." "For," says GIBSON, "the blood of young horses may reasonably be supposed unequally fluid, having
" not

“ not as yet been sufficiently comminuted by
 “ frequent *circulations*.” His *meaning* may be
 possibly right, but most *unhappily* expressed to
 make clear his intention : to demonstrate this,
 let us dissect the phraseology, not assuming the
 unpleasing task of criticism, but as a prelude to
 the establishment of our own system hereafter
 explained. He says “ the blood having not
 “ as yet been sufficiently comminuted,” that is,
 in plain terms, or sound English, not properly
pulverized or reduced to powder : however, I
 am willing to give him credit for a meaning he
 did not think fit to explain, and acknowledge
 he intended to have said (had it not smelt too
 strong of vulgarity) “ sufficiently mixed.” To
 this remark, notwithstanding its sublimity, I
 enter my PROTEST ; and cannot avoid ex-
 pressing surprise, that any professional confide-
 rate author could suppose the blood should in-
 cessantly flow for three, four, or five years,
 without the *crassamentum* and *serum* being suf-
 ficiently incorporated or “ *comminuted*.”

I will, upon the occasion, so far suppress my
 resentment at this feeble attack upon the system
 of circulation, as to forego the great inclination
 I feel to enlarge much more upon so prepos-
 terous

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rous a position, and acknowledge, as no one found reason has ever been given for the cause in question, I shall not presume to introduce any thing dictatorially decisive upon the subject, but submit to the consideration of others what appears to me to contain every *just* reason that can be assigned for the appearance of a distemper, attacking each subject to a certainty, at different periods without contagion, or any cause hitherto established, but that it is so. For my own part, after affording it every degree of consideration, there is absolutely but ONE rational cause to be offered why horses, at the periods before mentioned, become *then* subject to this distemper, in a greater or less degree according to circumstances; as for instance :

Those horses (or colts) that have been constantly well fed without restraint, for three, four, or five years, must, with their food, have imbibed an accumulation of impurities ; these having never been once agitated by evacuations, excited by art, or perspiration promoted by exercise, must consequently remain stagnant in the blood, till the horse, being brought into use for the purpose he is intended, when the grossness and viscosity that has so long lain dormant,

mant, soon becomes perceptible; the fluids are too thick, sluggish, and heavy, for their distinct appropriations; the lungs are first overloaded, a languor follows, to that a difficulty of breathing or short cough succeeds, and, lastly, the grand effort of NATURE displays itself in the disease before us: and that is most judiciously made in the glandular parts, where she is nearly adequate to her own work.

This rational progress of the morbid matter has ever affected me so forcibly with the idea of conviction, that nothing but a judicious, clear, and comprehensive elucidation, (divested of surmises and conjectures) demonstrating an opposite cause, can ever reconcile me to *another* opinion. I appeal, without subterfuge or ambiguity, to the professional and enlightened reader, whether this is not the regular process; if this lurking viscosity, this glutinous impurity, is not roused from its latent communication with the juices, and called into action by bringing the frame into sudden exertions and constant exercise, loaded (in circulation) with the weight that has been so long accumulating without interruption, from either purgatives, diuretics, or even perspiration? if this is not

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the *true* cause, why does it not appear before they come within the tree of the saddle, or the trammels of harness? for, experience demonstrates the truth of this observation, that *twenty* horses for either saddle or cart have this distemper after being taken into work, to every *one* attacked with it previous to their being broke and brought into use.

Having introduced thus much to gratify the expectation of every reader anxious for the elucidation of the cause, it becomes necessary to advert to the disease itself; the first attack of which is perceived in a dull sluggish heaviness and inactivity; the horse becomes dispirited, loses his appetite, is seized with a hollow husky cough, occasioned by the irritability of the inflamed glandular parts in the throat and about the root of the tongue; to excite a degree of moisture in the mouth that may allay this disagreeable sensation he is often picking his hay, but eats little or none; a degree of symptomatic heat comes on, and a consequent claminess and thirst is perceptible. As the distemper advances he becomes proportionally languid and inattentive; a swelling (sometimes two or three smaller surrounding) is now discovered to have
formed

formed itself underneath the jaw, and in general midway between the bones, which is at first very hard, exceeding painful, and visibly increasing; he now swallows with difficulty, heaves in the flanks, and his whole APPEARANCE evidently urges the necessity of an immediate attempt to relieve Nature from the oppression of her own weight.

The first object for consideration is the state of the subject: if the evacuations are regular (as they generally are) and the feverish symptoms moderate, (not approaching to violence) let the swelling be examined, and its suppuration promoted. First clip away all the long or superfluous *hairs* that cover or surround the part, then foment with small double flannels, dipt in a strong decoction of camomile, marshmallows, or rosemary, for ten minutes, as hot as can be conveniently submitted to, and prepare the following *poultices*:

TAKE of coarse bread, barley meal, and camomile or elder flowers, each a handful; boil over the fire in a sufficient quantity of milk, or the decoction for the fomentation; into which stir about a third (of the whole quantity) of white lily root

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washed

washed clean and pounded to a paste; adding thereto of linseed and fœnugrec (in powder) of each an ounce; stirring in, while hot, of turpentine two ounces, and of lard four, laying it on moderately warm, and bandaging firm.

This proportion is meant for two poultices, as the fomentation should be *renewed*, and the application of poultice *repeated*, every night and morning till an opening in the swelling is effected; upon which appearance of discharge let the aperture be a little enlarged with a *bistoury*, or the point of any sharp instrument adequate to the purpose; afterwards dressing with tow, spread with the stable digestive ointment, or common yellow basilicon, first made warm, and some of the unguent, (in preference to a tent) plentifully insinuated within the orifice, to facilitate its effect. Over this digestive, for the first two or three dressings, *continue* the poultice; by which treatment, though attended with a little more trouble, you will most assuredly shorten the disease: by this method your discharge will be copious, every symptom will gradually decline, and the cure, under the following aids and regulations, become speedily complete.

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Though bleeding is in general a very indifferent practice where a flux of matter is solicited to any particular part for suppuration, yet circumstances of danger (sometimes) not only justify but powerfully direct a deviation from the path of custom. For instance, should the fever run high, and all other symptoms equally violent, either in the beginning, or during a more advanced state, bleeding must be consequently submitted to, but not in too large quantity. Mashes must be the constant food, in small proportions, to prevent waste; in each of which put of *liquorice* and *aniseed* powders half an ounce, and about two ounces of *honey*, unless a quart of *malt* is introduced, when the honey may be omitted. The drink should be given little and often, impregnating the warm water with a portion of scalded bran or water-gruel; the head to be kept well covered with a hood, or other temporary substitute, as the warmth will greatly tend to assist in promoting the necessary discharge. When circumstances and weather will permit, the horse should have the advantage of air and short gentle exercise, regular dressing, and the accustomed course of stable discipline, only in a less degree than usual.

It is a *consolation* in this distemper that a symptom of danger seldom occurs, unless from neglect or absolute cruelty in using or driving a horse to extremity in the height of disease, so as to produce great fever and inflammation. The disorder generally *terminates* with a running at the nose, in a greater or less degree, which should be frequently cleansed from the inside of the nostrils, by means of a sponge sufficiently moistened in warm water to prevent its acquiring an adhesion to those parts, or a foulness and foetidity that would shortly become acrimonious and corrosive. When the wound is entirely healed, the horse has regained his appetite, and may be considered perfectly recovered from the languor and debilitation which this complaint constantly produces, he should be put upon a gentle course of mild mercurial physic, if there are no circumstances to forbid it: this should be prepared with due attention to his state and condition, selecting it from the variety of *purging prescriptions* afforded by the index under that head. And this becomes the more immediately necessary should a copious and offensive discharge continue from the nostrils after healing the abscess, and leave room to suspect
the

the cause is seated upon those internal parts hereafter described in the next article of *Glanders*.

The disorder nearly related to this, and passing under the denomination of VIVES, is no other than the same species of disease, only attacking the subject in an infinite less degree; the juices being less corrupted inflammation is not so readily excited, nor does it arrive at the pitch necessary to produce supuration. The swellings thus fixed continue some time in a dormant state, the symptoms often light, and indicating no certainty of conclusion by maturation or absorption. If these swellings evidently *increase* (however slowly) and seem to *threaten* a discharge, it is a critical effort of Nature, and must be promoted by the methods already pointed out. On the contrary should they recede and begin to disappear, embrace the first opportunity to carry off any ill effects that may arise, by a dose or two of *physic*; avoiding, by all means, the ill-advised method of driving them into the circulation by an external application of mercurials. But should such a ridiculous custom be adopted, in compliance with old books or

ancient practice, *palliate* the impropriety by phyfic, or a course of alteratives.

Where the glandular parts are affected from the palpable effects of cold, and a slight obstruction of the pores by a sudden check in perspiration (as in removing from a warm stable to a cold one on a journey, or some such circumstance that is not always discoverable) constituting small tumours (called *kernels*) under the ears or throat, *bleed* in proper quantity, *clothe* moderately, give *warm comfortable mashes* for a few nights, and an ounce of nitre every night and morning in the water.

It is necessary to be remarked and well remembered that the disease we now treat of, by neglect and inattention, sometimes degenerates to a confirmed GLANDERS; a distemper well known to be attended with the inconveniences of difficulty, certain expence, and inevitable danger; and where the circumstance does really occur from the above cause, if the sufferings of the animal were not involved in the event, the *loss* of the horse would be a very applicable PUNISHMENT to the *inhumanity* of the master.

GLANDERS.

G L A N D E R S.

This disease has ever been to the fraternity of *Farriers* what the *gout*, *stone*, and *consumption*, have proved to the FACULTY, a never-failing source for constant attendance, long bills, and large sums total. And though, like all other distempers, considered incurable, “too serious to make a joke of,” I must be indulged in the effusions of fancy naturally arising from a very minute investigation of the case and its consequences. We are told by those who have preceded us that “the cause and seat of the glanders have been till lately so imperfectly *handed*, and so little understood by the writers of this distemper, that it is no wonder it should be ranked among the *incurables* : but a *new* light having been thrown upon the whole affair by the study of M. La Fosse, the King of France’s farrier, who has been at the pains to trace out and discover, by DISSECTIONS, the source and cause of this disorder, we hope the method he has proposed, with some *farther* experiments and improvements, will soon bring to

“ a certainty

“ a certainty of cure (in most cases at least) a
 “ distemper so dangerous to our horses, and
 “ that hitherto has eluded the force of
 “ art.”

We are then informed M. La Fosse's work
 “ has the approbation of the Royal Academy
 “ of Sciences;” that “ he has distinguished
 “ seven different kinds of glanders, four of
 “ which are incurable;” much more is intro-
 duced to corroborate his opinions, and give
 weight to the *very nice* distinctions that con-
 stitute this *great variety* of glanders. He then
 introduces a most elaborate description of the
necessary operation of trepanning, with an ex-
 planatory plate, so *invitingly* finished that the
 appearance of the apparatus is almost sufficient
 to induce any man to have his horse's head
 perforated (or *laid open*) merely to indulge in
 the happiness of becoming a voluntary dupe
 to M. La Fosse's experiments.

His cures, *almost incredible*, are then enu-
 merated; you are told of *three* horses he tre-
 panned, each in two places: the internal parts
 were constantly syringed, and they were per-
 fectly recovered; “ the wound and perfora-
 “ tion

“tion filling up in twenty-six days, the
“horses suffering *no inconvenience* from the
“operation, though after this experiment they
“were PUT TO DEATH.” Many quotations might be introduced upon which I could much enlarge, but, in so doing, such observations would unavoidably extend to too great a length; and, as some just satire upon such unaccountable absurdities must appear, I shall endeavour to render it perfectly applicable to the subject before us.

In the first instance, it may not be amiss to make proper acknowledgments to the French king's farrier, and his *trumpeter*, Mr. BARTLET, for dividing and subdividing *one* into *seven* distinct (or *imaginary*) diseases; in short, upon accurate investigation, we find the fertile M. La Fosse (and his echo) have defined six different discharges from the nostrils to constitute so many (*nominal*) glanders, and then describe a seventh, and tell us that is the “*real* glanders.” It is impossible to pass over the *finesse* of the Frenchman, or the kindness and *credulity* of his copiest, without saying something in animadversion upon this attempt to impose upon the world in general, without even the basis of consistency for a foundation.

To

To take this business a little methodically, it may not be inapplicable (without any offence to M. La Fosse or the Royal Academy of Sciences, who so *generously* patronized his great discoveries) to introduce a short story, many years in circulation, of the celebrated witty dean of St. Patrick, who, holding in great contempt the learned acquisition of F. R. S. addressed a letter to the PRESIDENT, "requesting him to take the sense of the body " upon the *peculiar* properties of *bemp*, that it " should, upon application, *immediately* cure a " fractured leg!" This letter (from so great a man), being communicated to the " FEL- " Lows," in full assembly, was productive of sequestered studies, nocturnal lucubrations, and various experiments to almost every individual; numerous meetings were held; but consultation and emulation producing no discovery, at the end of three weeks a second letter arrived from the dean, "soliciting pardon " for an omission in his last, which was to in- " form the society that the LEG *was of wood*." I introduce this circumstance not as a burlesque upon so great and learned a body, but to prove that such, as well as individuals, are liable to error and misconstruction.

My

My predecessor, (as I have before remarked) then says “ with some farther experiments “ and *improvements* he hopes this distemper “ will be brought to a certainty of cure.” Now what he can wish or desire by “ farther “ experiments and improvements,” is beyond my abilities to discover ; he descends most minutely to the operation of trepanning ; or, in plainer terms, taking two pieces of bone out of different parts of the skull by perforation, then plentifully *soaking* with detergent *lotions*, adding a variety of instructions for *injections*, *dressings*, &c. to complete a cure of what (*till then*) had been considered incurable. To keep up the farce of inconsistency, we are at last confidently assured that such operations being performed, “ after opening the cavities, should “ it by *probing* be discovered that the bones “ are carious, (or, in other words, *rotten*) the “ best way *then* will be to dispatch the horse, “ to save unnecessary trouble and expence.” I cannot resist the temptation I feel to transpose this language, and display it in plain *English* thus. In fact, deprive the horse of half his head, in compliment to the *pecuniary* feelings of the farrier, and if you find the remaining half will not answer the purpose of the whole,

whole, cut his throat, or shoot him through the head, to save the *operator's* credit. Previous to the serious investigation of this case, I must beg permission (in imitation of my *learned* predecessor H. BRACKEN, M. D.) to introduce a *second* story not altogether inapplicable to this complicated chapter upon heads.

A certain chymist having dedicated much *time, trouble, and expense*, to the preparation of a *balsamic elixir*, brought it at *last* to so great a degree of perfection that it would, upon the first application, instantaneously *incarnate, cicatrize and cure* a wound of the most dreadful appearance; having confirmed the discovery by a number of inferior instances, he applied to his friend and servant John to sit down and have his head taken off and replaced with the *elixir*, to demonstrate its efficacy. But John, knowing his duty better, declined in compliment to his master, who he *insisted* upon it was entitled to the PREFERENCE, as the original inventor, and consequently to *all* the credit and emolument; the master, (but not without some reluctance) submitted to the equity of John's decision, who
separated

separated his master's head from the body most *chirurgically*; when, having plentifully *basted* both *head* and *trunk* with the *elixir* of all *elixirs*, he instantly replaced it; when, to the happy admiration of both master and man, the former (after a temporary torpitude) recovering, walked towards the looking-glass, where, finding his face turned towards the shoulders, accused his confidant of having put his head on the WRONG way; who most prudently and judiciously replied, he had so placed it to ensure his master's *credit*; for he was very certain if he had not the world would never have believed it had been off.

I am induced once more to solicit pardon of the Academy of Sciences, M. La Fosse, and the admirers of Bartlet's Theory, for the introduction of this "experiment and improvement," submitting the inference entirely to those gentlemen who have (unluckily) at this moment glandered horses in their possessions.

It would be rather inattentive and remiss in me to pass over the uncharitableness, or rather cruelty, of dooming to death the *three* horses

so *trepanned*, *syringed*, and *completely* cured by M. La Fosse “in twenty-six days;” unless we are to conceive the *possibility* of putting “them” “to death” on the twenty-sixth day, to avoid their natural dissolution on the *twenty-seventh*, the better to ensure the honour of the boasted discovery, and the additional “approbation” “of the Royal Academy of Sciences.”

This *possibility* may be very *probable*, and indeed is no unjustifiable or unfashionable policy in physician, farrier, or quack, as every newspaper amply testifies; they daily abound with singular, miraculous, *incredible*, (*imaginary*) cures, constantly effected by mercurial or antimonial nostrums, but not a *single word* of the HUNDREDS that annually fall victims to the necessities of medical adventurers, who, with *fortune* sufficient to pay for an *advertisement*, half a score *phials*, a *solution* of *mercury*, or a quart of *soap lees*, boldly commence their depredations upon the public; and this they are now the more *entitled* to do by their extensive contribution to the exigencies of government, whose STAMP of approbation they are in possession of; and a report is in circulation that *one* is at present preparing at the office

office for their *sole* dispensation, with the very emphatical inscription of "Kill or cure by
" act of parliament."

A long experience and want of fashionable flexibility, has established in me so great a degree of incredulity that I am totally insensible to the novelty of a *man* in a *quart bottle*, a *ghost* in *Cock-lane*, the taking off *one half* of a horse's head to relieve the *other*, or curing every (*incurable*) disease to which human nature is liable, by a *mercurial drop*, an *antimonial pill*, a *vegetable syrup*, or an *æthereal spirit*: I shall descend therefore from the sublimity of so much *eminence*, and, gently gliding into the vale of reason, resume the original path from which it will be undoubtedly thought by SOME I have digressed MUCH too long.

It consequently becomes necessary to observe that, upon whatever part this disease has taken its seat, it has been considered by almost all parties, and through almost all experiments, absolutely incurable. To corroborate an opinion so universally received and admitted, it does not appear to me that a tedious technical
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description of its true seat, ascertaining it to be in "the pituitary membrane, the maxillary sinusses, the frontal sinusses, or cavities above the orbits of the eyes," can give additional weight, or enlighten the understanding of the reader. The dull discouraging description of a misfortune, to evade the ultimate force of which there is no probable (or indeed possible) appearance, can prove but a very slender consolation; I therefore disclaim the idea of attempting imposition upon any application that may be made to this work for information, and heartily condemn the *ridiculous* belief of SEVEN distinct kinds of glanders, and the still more ridiculous discrimination by which they are *pretended* to be brought about. They are so truly *puerile* and *nugatory* that a medical man may (with as *much* appearance of *truth* and *reason*) madly attempt to justify the absolute existence of seven kinds of *small-pox* or *measles*, according to their different stages or gradations. The true state of *his* representation (divested of its *necessary* ambiguity) is *plainly* this; he has mutilated, separated, and complicated a variety of symptoms, endeavouring to form distinctions that may keep up the farce, and support the opinion he advances, which

which neither the case or circumstances will admit; for the obtruding penetration of any professional instantly plucks off the mask of speculation, and the intentional deception recoils upon the author with additional disgrace.

To demonstrate the case more comprehensively or clearly, the fact appears, that any corrosive matter discharged from the nostrils, and suffered to continue for a length of time, so as to constitute ulcerations and corrode the bones, will inevitably degenerate into, and constitute, the disease generally understood by the appellation of glanders; every stagnant, acrimonious, or putrid matter, is possessed of this property, and more particularly when lodged (or by sinusses confined) upon any particular part. Divested of professional TRICK, CHICANERY, and DECEPTION, this is the incontrovertible explanation, whether proceeding from an ulceration of the lungs, or the inveterate glandular discharges from the head (where the case is of long standing, and the bone carious) they are equally *incurable*. Persevering in my opinion, long since quoted, that *prevention* is preferable to *cure*, I shall point out such methods as are the most eligible to adopt,

upon the bare apprehension of such complaint, or any disorder that may be likely to terminate in a disease of so much difficulty, expense, and danger.

In respect to the medical and domestic management ; where the lungs are the seat of disease, as in the first attack of coughs, &c. directions so clear and explanatory are laid down through the whole of the sixth class, that there is not the least room to add a single addition upon the subject ; to that class, under its different heads, I refer the reader for any instructions that a variety of symptoms may render necessary. But where a swelling of tumour gives ocular proof that matter is forming under the ears, jaws, or between the bones, (about the root of the tongue) take every possible method to produce a suppuration and discharge of matter ; for, in most cases, an external evacuation becomes the crisis, and greatly preferable to the chance of mischiefs that may be the result of repulsion, particularly where the matter is in an unhealthy state, and calculated to communicate its morbid effects with virulence wherever it takes its seat ; which, upon being repelled and compulsively absorbed
into

into the circulation, it will of course be empowered to do, if not speedily carried off by mercurial or antimonial preparations.

Should a *cough* or *difficulty of breathing* attend, draw blood from a remote vein in moderate quantity, to mitigate either of those symptoms ; but neither being present let the operation be omitted, unless particularly urged or indicated by a great degree of inflammatory heat. So soon as the swellings about the neck, head, or throat, have acquired a palpable prominence, foment twice a day with the following decoction :

TAKE camomile, wormwood, marshmallows, and elder flowers, of each a large handful ; boil in three quarts of water for a quarter of an hour ; then strain off, and foment the swellings well. with flannels dipped in the hot liquid, and apply the herbs warm by way of poultice to the parts, confining them on, and repeating the ceremony for two or three days,

By this time some degree of observation may be made whether the tumours tend to suppuration, if so, they will increase in size, becoming pliable or soft to pressure in the
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middle; in which case apply the poultice; and proceed as directed in the Strangles, p. 243. On the contrary, should the swellings continue hard and immoveable, a running coming on at the nose, let notice be taken whether the matter is of a kind, white, healthy appearance, without smell, and discoloured; or bearing different tinges, and streaked with blood; if the former, it is favourable, and the complaint may be first treated as directed under the articles of cold and cough, p. 167; but should it prove of the last description, care should be taken to ascertain the fact, that every precaution may be used in its infancy to prevent what may soon become a case of trouble and disquietude. At any rate the following plan should be adopted without delay:

Take rosemary, lavender flowers, southernwood and marjoram, of each a handful; boil in two or three quarts of water; and, putting into a pail, let the horse's head be fixed over it as near as possible, so long as the fumes passing up the nostrils can be supposed to take effect as an internal fomentation.

By this method the viscid and glutinous matter may be softened in the passages, and the
inflammatory

inflammatory stricture taken off the tumified glands. This operation should be repeated twice every day: all the practice and preparations recommended under the heads of coughs and strangles, with glandular discharges from the nostrils, may be referred to, and such methods persevered in as are there pointed out, most applicable to prevalent symptoms and concurring circumstances.

Should the discharge continue to increase in quantity and virulence, becoming very offensive both in colour and smell, not only continue the before-mentioned fumigation, but throw up either nostril, (or both, if the matter should be so discharged) with a strong forcible syringe, half a gill of the following injection three or four times a day, first made milk warm and then thrown up with the full power of the instrument.

Take of linseed one ounce;

Cammomile and elder flowers each half an ounce; boil in three pints of water for some minutes, then strain off and add *mel Ægyptiacum* (or Egyptian honey) four ounces, mixing well together at each time of using.

If the matter bears all those appearances of malignancy that threaten a corrosion and rottenness of the bones, continue incessant in the use of both fumigation and injection, putting the horse immediately upon a mild course of unction in the following way: Let *two*, or at most *three*, drachms of the strong *mercurial ointment* be very well rubbed into the glandular tumours, under the throat or ears, every night for a fortnight; first taking away with the scissars all superfluous or long hairs, that the mercurial particles may be with more certainty absorbed by the vessels, and taken into the circulation. If the owner of a horse labouring under this difficulty wishes, like a drowning man, to avail himself of ANOTHER twig, he may call in the aid of mercurial physic, or alterative medicines; from a variety of which choice may be made by referring to the index, and making examination under those heads; an exact repetition of the numerous prescriptions being evidently unnecessary where so little can be expected from their effects.

Opinions have ever been different respecting this disease being communicated by infection; and though some have *affected* to oppose the

the idea, they obliquely coincide in opinion, by acknowledging it is much the safest way to "separate the sound from the unsound, and "not run any hazard with a good horse when "it may be so easily avoided." Whether we consider this as a necessary caution, or a proof of conviction, the maxim is equally respectable, and should be constantly retained in the memory. Where there is the least reason to suspect even a probability of danger from the very chance of contagion, and more particularly since the prevalence of opinion has reduced the belief of infection to almost a certainty, no person can hardly be found sufficiently *fool-hardy* to place a sound horse in a stable where one stands, or is said to have lately stood, with this distemper upon him.

It again becomes unavoidably necessary to make a few additional remarks upon the boasted operation and discovery of M. LA FOSSE, from which such great and extensive advantages would have *probably* been obtained, had the ungenerous act been prevented of taking away the lives of his *three* patients, after they had withstood the *glanders*, a double perforation

foration in (or drilling of) the *scull*, repeated *washings* of the *brains* with detergent injections; and a subsequent *regeneration* of *parts*. That the operations *may* have been performed as described, and the horse (or *three* horses) may have lived twenty-six days, I do not attempt to deny, nor is it in *my* power to disprove; but this I will boldly venture to affirm, that the certain *expense* and *bazard* can be but a very slender *lottery chance*, for any proprietor who may unluckily have a horse labouring under the extremity of this dreadful disease.

I cannot believe, nor indeed do I expect, disinterestedness can ever become so truly triumphant, as to permit any farrier to be so great an enemy to his own interest as to recommend DEATH, or discourage the expectation of CURE, so long as circumstances and the persuasive power of his rhetoric can justify the idea of hope; but how far it may be worth while to encounter the difficulties of anxiety, tedious expense, long sickness, attendance, perpetual nursing, and the danger of infecting whatever horses remain in, or may
come

come to the stable, is more the duty of others to consider than me to point out.

Contracting therefore all the attending considerations into one point of view, I shall openly and fairly enter my opinion against the operation of *trepanning*, so plausibly held forth with all its specious advantages. For what does the whole amount to more than this?—If the horse should absolutely recover, and (what is still more unlikely) become adequate to the very purposes he was destined to before the attack; when the *long illness, support, attendance, and farrier's bill*, are balanced against his *VALUE*, he must be a most excellent horse, and very much above the line of mediocrity, to have the *credit* accompt in his favour. In fact, the most probable conjecture is, his inevitable dissolution; but, should he miraculously escape from both the distemper and operator, ranking under the denomination of a *cured horse*, he may, perhaps, be *then qualified* to linger out a wretched existence in some park or pasture, but *never* enabled to encounter labour or fatigue.

The

The "task of justice thus performed," I take leave of this subject, with an earnest recommendation to all classes never to neglect horses, in the slightest degree, when attacked with colic, coughs, strangles, a running at the nose, or indeed any other complaint that may, either by a rapid or gradual progression, degenerate to a disease of so much trouble, difficulty, and danger. The rational system of practice in this disorder may be forcibly repeated, and inculcated in a very few words. So long as the attack continues in its early and simple state, be industriously attentive to the execution of such instructions as are given under the different heads of those symptoms that are *then* most predominant; but, should patience and fair trial demonstrate the non-submission of disease and inefficacy of medicine, the glands or kernels under the jaw-bone continuing during the whole course inflexible, the matter first tinged with blood, then becoming deep in colour and most offensive in smell, the carcass emaciated, and the whole frame sinking under universal depression, the *first* loss will be *ultimately* best, in a resignation of his hide to the collarmaker, and his remains to the hounds.

Before

Before I close my observations upon this disease, let it be well understood that, during the whole course of management, the head of the horse is to be kept as warm as possible, and in proportion much more so than the body, either in a double kersey hood, or a single external, and a flannel (or seat cotton) one underneath; for, it may readily be conceived (without much information) nothing can contribute more to a solution of the humours, and promotion of their discharge, than a critical relaxation of the pores, particularly upon the very seat of disease: from this consideration arises conviction that assisting circumstances co-operate with and are as necessary as the external or internal administration of medicine; experience having afforded ample proof that a combination may effect what is not in the power of individuals to perform.

The strong mercurial ointment directed for the repulsion of glandular tumours under this head, as also in the Farcy, (p. 111) may be procured at any medical dispensary by that name, or thus prepared:

Take

TAKE quicksilver four ounces;

Hog's lard half a pound;

Balsam of sulphur (or turpentine) half an ounce;

Rub the quicksilver well in a mortar, with the balsam of sulphur or turpentine, till they are so well incorporated that the globules disappear, then add the lard (just warm and liquefied) by small quantities, that it may be sufficiently smooth, and let it be kept close covered for use.

STAGGERS AND CONVULSIONS.

A multiplicity of long standing distinctions, constituting a variety of different diseases in former practice, have by nice attention, in modern improvement, been nearly reduced to the two heads under which we now write; that is, such disorders as principally affect the head, having their seat in the brain or vessels leading thereto. In this description are included those that have been formerly distinguished under separate heads, as Apoplexy, Convulsions, Epilepsy, Stag-Evil, Palsy, &c. but as such investigations (founded as they must be mostly upon conjecture) will evidently extend the thread of information to an indeterminate degree

degree of refinement, I shall decline entering into the explanatory parts, so minutely and tediously defined upon former occasions, reciting only the general system upon which the cause is founded, and then proceed to quote from others circumstances that may justify the bringing such a variety of disorders into a single point of view.

How far the pretended accuracy of formerly distinguishing one of these diseases from another may be reconciled to modern comprehension, or generally credited, I know not, but confess, where the whole formation of judgment and decision is to rest upon the penetration of the observer only, and no information come from the patient, circumstances could or can but very seldom combine to form so singular a distinction. Experience and observation may undoubtedly do much in a collection of similitudes and probabilities, but never enough to ascertain the distinct invariable causes and effects of diseases, where the most trifling difference is hardly acknowledged; more particularly when it is reconsidered that the cause of nearly all these disorders are in the original seat of nervous irritability,

tability, the brain; or in those parts connected with, or dependent upon, its structure and purposes; except when they are understood to be symptomatic or depending upon some original remote cause; as the effect of bots preying upon the stomach or intestines; internal ulcerations, or complaints not immediately discoverable; these may sometimes happen, but very rarely to affect the frame with symptoms so truly alarming.

To avoid entering into new descriptions and unentertaining definitions, that must be technical to be accurate, and consequently extended to a length that can neither gratify the expectation or improve the judgment of the general reader, I shall, in as concise a way as the subject will permit, introduce an abridgment from the opinions of GIBSON, which is in fact furnishing the whole advanced by his successors; who, without exception, generously transmitted his ideas and informations, forgetting (or omitting) to elucidate the subject with any brilliant observations of their own. "APOPLEXY (says he) is usually defined " a privation of sense and motion, excepting " only a languid one in the heart and breast; " and

“ and this either proceeds from a cause with-
 “ out the vessels, viz. when the blood or any
 “ other fluid happens to break out of some
 “ vessel within the brain, or when there hap-
 “ pens to be preternatural bones or tumours
 “ bred and contained within the scull, or
 “ any other extraneous matter that may, in
 “ any sort, press upon the soft substance of the
 “ brain, causing those deadly disorders. But
 “ this is a species that is incurable, and, for
 “ the most part, seizes suddenly without any
 “ foregoing tokens or warnings. Thus in an
 “ APOPLEXY sense and motion are in a man-
 “ ner quite lost, because of the pressure that
 “ is made upon the origin of all the nerves
 “ that arise from the head: but, in a VER-
 “ TIGO, objects that are at rest appear as
 “ if they were turning round, and by that
 “ means occasion any creature to reel and
 “ stagger; and this proceeds from the vibra-
 “ tions and tremors of the optic nerve,
 “ whereby the images falling not directly but
 “ successively upon the different parts of the
 “ *retina*, an object that is at rest will there-
 “ fore appear as if turning round; and this
 “ may be occasioned either when an animal
 “ is fearful of falling, or from a repletion or
 T “ overfulness

“ overfulness of those arteries which are situated near the optic nerve, which, by pressing upon the brain, will cause a shaking in that nerve.”

“ Now (says he) if we examine a little carefully into all the different appearances of that distemper which farriers call *the staggers*, we shall find them reducible to one of these maladies above described.” He then proceeds to prove that the staggers may be the effect of either; then mentions an attack when the horse is first turned to grass, after a day or two's full feeding, and defines that apoplectic, and a fourth, that is, “ either a true apoplexy, or a vertigo, or perhaps both.” I omit enlarging here upon these palpable absurdities and direct contradictions, quoting them to demonstrate the inconsistency of following him through all these *turnings* and *windings*, to establish a professional mystery in deceptively attempting to ascertain distinctions where none can with truth or certainty be formed.

“ The following evil, or convulsions, (he says) is that which, in the physician's terms, comes

“ comes under the denomination of an *Epi-*
 “ *lepsy*, and seems to be no other than an
 “ APOPLEXY or VERTIGO, accompanied with
 “ convulsions, either as the cause or effect.”
 This being a kind of synonymous ambiguity,
 I shall so consider it, and revert to his defini-
 tion of *convulsions* at large; where he says
 “ The cause of convulsions are first whatever
 “ wastes and exhausts the body, or any of
 “ its parts; as the taking away too much
 “ blood, violent purging, hard labour, or long
 “ sickness. Secondly, whatever fills the
 “ body too much, and gives origin to obstruc-
 “ tions in the blood vessels or nerves, or
 “ brings a debility and weakness into the sto-
 “ mach; and, lastly, wounds, or whatever else
 “ causes pain and inflammation: as to the
 “ cure it is the same with that of APO-
 “ PLEXY and VERTIGO.” He has thus tech-
 nically and abstrusely laboured through a
 multiplicity of close written pages to perplex
 the mind and confound the judgment, mis-
 leading his readers by repeated attempts to
 prove the distinct existence of all these sepa-
 rate diseases; though, at the conclusion of each
 description, he acknowledges they are nearly

synonymous, and come directly under the same methods of cure.

This is absolutely the fact brought into the compass of truth, and will exculpate me from the accusation of neglect or deception in not treating separately upon such diseases; and, by introducing a train of *imaginary* symptoms, endeavour to give the appearance of weight to what must be termed a mere matter of conjecture. As they are disorders that luckily happen but seldom, I shall confine myself to their description and treatment as the *staggers* and *convulsions* only; the instructions necessary for the management of those being universally admitted adequate to the intentional cure of the long list of *et ceteras*.

Horses, upon the approach of any of those disorders, whose seat is directly in the brain, or nervous system, display a previous weakness and inactivity, seeming to move reluctantly, reeling or staggering in their walk, frequently blinking their eyes, as feeling some awkward depression or uneasiness from the effect of light; they are averse to handling, and brought out of the stable with difficulty; in
time

time a visible tremor comes on, and after reeling (or frequently turning round, if loose) they fall almost lifeless to the ground, having the perceptible power of breathing only, but that in a degree of violence and agitation; this is termed the APOPLEXY, or STAGGERS, admitted synonymous and similar in cause, symptoms, and effects.

The great variety of symptoms that have been hitherto worked up to a pitch of extravagance, exciting a degree of credulity to the discrimination of these diseases, would render it a palpable burlesque upon the subject to go over a similar ground; they having included and enumerated every possible symptom (common to all distempers) in the description of this class, determined to include the *whole*, that no *one* circumstance might be wanting to justify their assertions, or confirm their judgment. Whether it is Epilepsy, Palsy, Convulsions, or Stag-evil, symptoms are amply furnished: we are repeatedly told “The
 “horse reels and staggers; his eyes are fixed
 “in his head; he has no sense of what he his
 “doing; he stales and dungs insensibly; he
 “runs round and falls suddenly; *sometimes*
 T 3 “ he

“ he is immoveable, with his legs stretched out
 “ as if he was dead, except only a quick motion
 “ of his heart and lungs, which causes a violent
 “ working of his flanks ; *sometimes* he has involuntary motions and shaking of his limbs,
 “ so strong, that he has not only beat and
 “ spurned his litter but the pavement with it.”

Here is ample proof how much I might indulge myself in playing upon the alternatives they admit, so *cautiously* guarded with their *adverb* of possibility; I could introduce a very long chain of quotations in the same style of ambiguity or duplicity, plentifully interspersed with their favourite safeguard “ *sometimes* he is up, and
 “ *sometimes* he is down; and *sometimes* he is hot,
 “ and *sometimes* he is cold;” *sometimes* they recover, and *sometimes* they prove mortal, &c. but it has ever been the intent of this work to make the CAUSE, SYMPTOMS, and CURE of every disease as clear as the nature of each case will admit; being unavoidably interspersed with medical remarks and occasional explanations, where technical terms could not be evaded; I shall therefore revert no more to a succession or repetition of symptoms, where enough has been already pointed out to explain to any rational observer a case originating in the causes we
 now

now treat of; and whichever it is, or to what denomination it is most properly entitled, the seat of disease being the same, the cure must be corresponding: but in these, and in all other disorders, a little judgment must be exerted to regulate the treatment by circumstances, as symptoms cannot on every occasion be collected from books, or be found in one distemper always the same.

Diseases originating in the most abstruse recesses of nature, and that will admit such a complication of constructions, may proceed from a variety of causes clearly comprehended; as, in all probability, they may likewise from many that we are entirely unacquainted with. Among the former is that cause originating in the preternatural increase of the velocity of the blood, instantaneously affecting the brain; as is annually confirmed by the loss of hundreds, in madly exceeding the bounds of humanity, and exhausting the strength and power of an animal made by Nature sufficiently strong to bear almost every task the degeneracy or avarice of man could be supposed to invent. In corroboration of this circumstance of the premature deaths occasioned by increasing the velocity of

he blood beyond the limits prescribed by Nature, I present to the reader's imagination that infinity of most beautiful horses that upon every principal road in England constantly fall victims to the rapidity of MAIL COACHES, FLYING MACHINES, DILLIES, and POST TRAVELLERS; more particularly in the extreme heat of summer, when they are seen daily dying martyrs to the eagerness of *impatient* travellers, or the innate cruelty of inhuman drivers. To these some (but a very few) of private property may be added, hard drove upon long and speedy journies, and others imprudently rode, and improperly managed, during chases of great length, in strong deep countries, with fleet hounds.

Others become the subjects of these disorders from great irritation (with severe and excruciating pains) in the stomach and bowels; the powerful effects of worms or bots in the intestinal canal; sharp acrid medicines; a repulsion of any morbid matter from the surface, without its being carried off by proper evacuations; or wounds, dislocations, &c. They are frequently known to attack *very* suddenly, and terminate in death *very* speedily; at others the
 approach

approach is indicated by the symptoms before recited. The most rational methods of cure will be to correct or discharge the primary cause, to allay the spasms, and to reduce the extreme degree of irritability, by strengthening the nervous system; the causes of irritation are not only remote but various, and relief must consequently be occasionally obtained by different means.

The first step to cure will be, at all events, to draw blood, and that in quantity according to exigencies and the state of your subject. In cases of real alarm and danger, bleed in two veins remote from each other, to cause the greater revulsion: although it becomes absolutely necessary to stimulate and rouse the animal powers, after the paroxysm, little can be done during the fit; however a glyster may be prepared, according to the following directions, and given as soon as possible.

If the cause is ascertained (or supposed) to proceed from an increased velocity of the blood, and consequent inflammation upon the brain, give the glyster prescribed in p. 28: if from extreme irritation in the stomach and bowels,
give

give the *domestic glyster*, p. 202, with the addition of liquid laudanum half an ounce. If the continual preying and depredations of bots, or worms, are the cause, give, for the present, the following glyster; and so soon as the horse is sufficiently recovered to go through the course, proceed as directed under that head:

Take of rue, favin, and wormwood, each a handful; boil a quarter of an hour in two quarts of water, with four ounces of common salt; then strain and add tincture of asafœtida two ounces, olive oil a quarter of a pint, and let it be thrown up moderately warm.

If the complaint proceeds from a too free use of sharp or acrid medicines, make an addition of two ounces of Venice treacle, and three drachms of liquid laudanum to the common domestic glyster before specified. For similar complaints proceeding from indeterminate causes the glyster p. 28 will be undoubtedly applicable.

Should spasms or convulsions prove so violent that, by a contraction of the muscles, the jaws are locked, or fixed, for any considerable length of time (the fit being of long duration),
recourse

recourse must be had to nutritive glysters, that the frame may be supported, notwithstanding its inability to receive aliment by other means. These may be prepared of different kinds, as broths, gruel, milk pottage, calf's feet jelly, thin; or a decoction of ground rice, mixed with starch. So soon as the fit is sufficiently off, to admit the advantage of medicine, give the following BALL, if it can be conveniently administered:

Take myrrh, ammoniacum, and asafœtida, of each three drachms;

Russia castor and camphire each a drachm;

Syrup sufficient to make the ball.

This should be repeated every ten or twelve hours, for two or three days, or till the absence of the fit leaves no apprehension of return. Where circumstances or symptoms may render a drink more convenient, the following may be prepared and given at the above stated intervals:

Take of valerian root and horseradish root (scraped or sliced) each two ounces;

Virginian snake root and mustard seed bruised each one ounce; upon these pour three pints of boiling water; let them be covered close, and when
nearly

nearly cold enough for use, strain through a cloth, using pressure to the ingredients, that the whole may be extracted. *Half* of this to be given for one dose, and repeated in six, eight, or ten hours, as circumstances may require.

In cases of danger, and at a great distance from towns where the above articles cannot be immediately obtained, substitute a strong infusion of rue, camomile, horseradish, mustard, or pennyroyal; taking two ounces of each of the *three* that can be most expeditiously procured, and pour upon them three pints of boiling water; let them stand till nearly cool, strain off, and give the proportion above directed, repeating it as there specified; remembering this is prescribed only as a temporary substitute till more powerful reliefs can be obtained; and not by any means to be put in competition with the efficacious stimulants before recommended.

When the fit is gone off, should the subject be left in a kind of stupor, or nervous debilitation, with spasms or twichings in the stomach and bowels that occasion great pain, it will be readily perceived, and more particularly ascertained
by

S T A G G E R S, &c. 285

by his frequent looking back to one side or the other, with his nose towards the seat of pain, and his uneasy shifting from place to place. In such case anodynes will afford the greatest certainty of relief; therefore give either the following *ball* or *drink* so soon as convenient:

Take galbanum, asafœtida, and storax pill, each half an ounce;

Syrup of diacodium sufficient to make the ball.

Or,

Take of valerian root one ounce and a half, snake root half an ounce; let both be bruised to a gross powder, and infuse in boiling water a pint and a quarter, with saffron two drachms; when sufficiently cool strain off, and add tincture of asafœtida one ounce, liquid laudanum two drachms, giving the whole a little warm.

If the spasms or twitchings are frequent and violent, the drink will be preferable to the ball, as coming by much the readiest into action and effect. Where this medicine cannot be given as a drink, it may as a glyster, either with or without the saffron, repeating it at any distance, of time that occasion or circumstances may require.

Should

Should any local paralytic affection, or contraction of the muscle, produce a stiffness or inactivity upon any particular part, friction, with strong penetrating embrocations, must be immediately brought into use and persevered in; of that class are the following:

Take oil of Barbadoes tar eight ounces;

Ætherial oil of turpentine and camphorated spirits of wine, each four ounces.—Mix together, and let the affected parts be substantially bathed with such proportion as may be adequate to the cause every night and morning.

Or,

Take opodeldoc six ounces;

Oils of origanum, amber, and wormwood, of each half an ounce.—Mix well together, and use as above.

Whichever is adopted (though the former is certainly the first in power and highest in estimation) must be rubbed into whatever part may be affected with great patience and assiduity, as nothing but length of time and perseverance in the operation can effect a sufficient penetration to the remote seat of complaint. Horses that are of a full plethoric habit,

habit, when attacked with this disease, should, so soon after recovery as they are able to bear it, be brought under a course of regular evacuations, such as are most applicable to their size, state, constitution, and condition. If they are inclined to fluctuating acrimonious humours, or viscid heavy foulness, let purges be soon brought into use; and introduce a rowel, if the case indicates the propriety, taking off somewhat of their former high feeding. If the stomach and bowels have been the seat of disease from irritability, either by internal weakness or improper treatment, assist the general system with a dozen of the *restorative cordial balls* (p. 176), after a proper continuance of the nervous medicines, letting one be given every morning. If from worms, so soon as he is sufficiently recovered from the alarming state of disease, give one of the *mercurial purging balls*, according to his state and temperament, regulating the course as particularly explained, p. 224.

The general and proper mode of treatment in every stage of these complaints having been explicitly introduced, I shall beg leave to observe, prescriptions and compositions innumerable

innumerable might be added, in compliance with custom, to give the subject an appearance of greater weight, by prolonging, extending, and varying the methods of cure. But the fact is, such class of medicines are at once brought forward for *every* disease as are well established, and high in estimation, for their different effects, that paltry, extraneous, deceptive aids, may be totally rejected to prevent unnecessary trouble, expense, and disappointment. In the present we have nearly *abandoned* the ancient practice, we applaud no "burning fetons with red hot irons," recommend no "chewing balls to champ upon," composed of *asafætida*, *savin*, and a combination of articles to create a nausea, and render the stomach eternally uneasy; nor do we adopt the system of "stitching up in the ears *garlic*, *rue*, *aquavita*, "cloves, ginger, and bay salt," either as remedies or provocatives to madness; but submit to public consideration and practice such methods of treatment and cure as are founded on the basis of safety, reason, and experience.

C L A S S IX.

CHOLIC, SCOURING, AND MOLTEN
GREASE.

C H O L I C.

It has been a professional custom, time immemorial, to distinguish every disorder of the stomach and bowels producing extreme pain, by the denomination of GRIPES, OR THE FRET; though little has been produced by the best writers to explain the different causes, and still less to establish a consistent method of cure. This deficiency, it must be acknowledged, has not arisen from a want of prescriptions; on the contrary, they have been most liberally dispensed; but, when the great variety of recipes that have been offered to public experiment become subject to the

U

accurate

accurate inspection of the *enlightened* practitioner, they may perhaps appear to be more the collected effusions of *fancy* than the effect of *judgment*. As it is not, however, the present intention to divert the mind to former modes of practice, let us endeavour to make the distinct causes of complaint properly understood, previous to the introduction of such course of medicines as *experience* has clearly demonstrated most safe and applicable to the relief of diseases, upon which we proceed to treat.

The disorders to which horses are most subject in the stomach and bowels (exclusive of those occasioned by Worms and Bots, already separately treated on) are those *kinds* of Cholic which it will be necessary to distinguish as the *flatulent* and *inflammatory*. The Flatulent Cholic is that species of intestinal pain, occasioned by an accumulation and retention of wind, which, by its expanding force, in a constant fluctuation and effort for discharge, extends the stomach or intestines to a certain degree (or perhaps their utmost elasticity); when coming into direct opposition with the contracting power of the abdominal muscles, certain pain is excited in a greater or less degree, according

according to the circumference and extension of the parts, the collection of confined air, and the proportional spasm produced by its effects.

This kind of Cholic comes on suddenly, and may, in general, be readily distinguished by the rumbling of the imprisoned air through the intestines for vent or discharge. It is occasioned by hasty and full feeding after long fasting; drinking cold water when hot, or in too large quantity; or when the obstructed perspirable matter is thrown immediately upon the bowels, by a powerful revulsion, effected in a change from heat to extreme cold, &c. There is no gradual progression in this complaint from slight symptoms; its appearance is mostly sudden, and attack violent; the subject becomes in more measure outrageous; he strikes his belly with his feet, looks wildly on either side towards his hind parts, lies down unexpectedly, and rises as suddenly. When the pain is excruciating vibrations of the whole frame are perceptible; to these a palpable moisture or sweat succeed, but not of long duration; a rigor or shivering frequently follows the perspiration; he repeatedly lies down, rolls himself upon his litter, and, seeming exhausted

with pain, stretches himself out as in a dying state. The first step to *relief* must be regulated, in some measure, by the ease or difficulty of obtaining those articles that are rendered by circumstances most adequate to the purpose. If in or near a town where the medicines can be readily procured, let the following BALL be prepared and given so soon as possible :

Take aniseed powder one ounce ;
Mithridate half an ounce ;
Grains of Paradise and ginger (both in powder)
of each two drachms ;
Oils of juniper and aniseed each a drachm ;
Syrup sufficient to make the ball.

This ball to be repeated in two hours if the urgency of the case should render it necessary ; on the contrary, if the symptoms are much alleviated by the first repeat it in four or six hours as circumstances may require. Where a drink is thought preferable, or the administration more convenient, and the ingredients can be easily obtained, prepare the following :

TAKE

TAKE coriander, sweet fennel, anise seeds, and Jamaica pepper, bruised, each an ounce and half; grains of Paradise half an ounce; ginger two drachms. Bruise separately in a mortar; then boil in three pints of thin gruel for ten minutes; strain and add of compound aniseed water, or, in want of that, Geneva or brandy half a pint; of this composition let half be given so soon as possible, and the remainder in two, four, or six hours, as the mitigation, or severity of symptoms may dictate.

If the distance from a town, or difficulty of obtaining the above preparations, should render a substitute unavoidable, the following attempt to relieve should be instantly adopted:

TAKE of ginger, carraways, nutmegs, Jamaica pepper; or, in fact, of any two spices (the house affords in the emergency,) each an ounce; bruise together in a mortar, and boil a few minutes in three quarters of a pint of gruel or ale, with two or three ounces of sugar; then strain and add a gill of Geneva or brandy, giving the drink moderately warm.

This, in country places and remote farm-houses, may be found an useful and convenient substitute during the time unavoidably necessary

to procure more powerful and efficacious remedies.

After a repetition of either of the two former compositions, should the horse not be relieved either by evacuations of stool, urine, or expulsion of wind, let the body undergo a gentle motion, by leading about for a quarter of an hour (or longer), if it can be justified by circumstances.

Should this combination of endeavours to relieve fail in effect, the thoughts must be immediately diverted from a continuation of warm cordial stimulants to a relaxation of the intestines; to promote which the following glyster should be prepared and administered with the greatest expedition.

TAKE camomile, marshmallows, wormwood, elder flowers, or rosemary, of any two most convenient, each a large handful; Jamaica pepper, and fenna, of each one ounce; ginger (bruised with the pepper) half an ounce: boil in two quarts of water for a quarter of an hour, strain off, pressing the ingredients; then add of olive oil and Geneva, or brandy, each a quarter of a pint, and let the whole be thrown moderately warm into the passage by gradual and gentle pressure.

This

This to be repeated in three or four hours, if by the evacuation of foul indurated excrements and expulsion of wind a proportion of relief is obtained, but the subject not perfectly at ease; on the contrary, should not relief be obtained, and the horse continue in extreme pain, recourse must be instantly had to the following *laxative drink*, which, if circumstances require, must be occasionally repeated, till relief is obtained by great expulsions of wind or plentiful evacuations.

TAKE fenna two ounces ; boil a few minutes in three quarters of a pint of water, with three drachms of ginger bruised; then strain and dissolve in the liquid four ounces of lenitive electuary, and six drachms of soluble tartar ; adding three ounces of tincture of fenna, and one of the tincture of jalap.

So soon after this as the horse is inclined supply him frequently with small quantities of substantial gruel moderately warm ; and when he is so much relieved that the pains have evidently subsided : in consequence of either of the above modes of treatment, let him be supplied with comfortable mashes, and warm water (slightly impregnated with gruel) at proper intervals,

Intervals, for a few days ; confirming the cure and strengthening the stomach and bowels, by giving, for a few mornings, one of the *restorative cordial balls*, prescribed in p. 176. The judicious inquirer will observe, the former fiery practice (of pepper, gin, turpentine, brine, and a long list of *et ceteras*) is rejected, as founded upon the basis of uncertainty and danger ; consequently not entitled to a place in the Modern System of Farriery. The WONDERFUL variety of prescriptions commonly obtruded for the particular purposes of appearance, are here intentionally avoided to prevent deception ; the above method of treatment, with the professional alternatives, being absolutely adequate to every possibility of relief, where the collection and retention of wind are supposed to constitute the disorder passing under the *general* denomination of FRET, or CHOLIC.

The distinct kind of CHOLIC

I now proceed to explain is distinguished, in common practice, by the appellation of *Gripes*, but, for the better comprehension of all parties, I shall consider it an Inflammatory Cholic, without

without reverting to the language of others, terming that "bilious," to which, in my humble opinion, there can, in this instance, be no *bilious* explanation appertaining. In the predominant symptoms of these kinds of Cholic there is but little difference; in the Inflammatory, of which we now treat, they however run higher, or, in other terms, more violent; the pain is evidently excruciating, and proceeds from costiveness, with great accumulation of indurated fæces, or hardened excrements. The rectum seems much loaded, and visibly pressed to the fundament, which appears prominent; a constant straining and endeavour to expel dung, with no other discharge than a discoloured hot sharp liquid; a frequent position is formed for staling without success; and the extreme pain soon produces symptomatic fever, with short breathing, heaving in the flanks, extravagant actions, and general exertions, that very much alarm with the apprehension of immediate danger. To allay which, it will be adviseable to take off the spasm or stricture from the intestines, by an expeditious solution and discharge of their contents, thereby preventing inflammation, and its certain ~~if~~ not immediate consequences. This desirable event must be solicited

cited by a combination of efforts, without inconsiderately waiting hour after hour, for the result of a single administration; a junction of aid must therefore be formed for the occasion, and the following glyster prepared and injected without delay:

Take of common gruel three pints;
Epsom salts four ounces;
Tincture of fenna and olive oil each a quarter of a pint.

This being administered, let a *laxative drink* be prepared with the following ingredients, and given so soon as circumstances will permit:

Take fenna one ounce;
Carraway seeds bruised, and cream of tartar, each half an ounce.—Boil for ten minutes in three quarters of a pint of water, in which dissolve four ounces of Glauber salts, then strain and add tincture of jalap one ounce.

If relief and plentiful evacuations are not obtained by these means so soon as may reasonably be expected, prevent (if possible) the increase of inflammatory symptoms, by taking
away

away a moderate proportion of blood from the neck ; for, in this advanced stage of the disorder, appearances of danger can only be subdued by a removal of obstructions. It may therefore be naturally inferred (without introducing, in compliance with custom, a multiplicity of prescriptions to embarrass the mind and perplex the judgment) that these effects can only be produced by perseverance in a repetition of either or both the above, as exigencies may direct or dictate, till the necessary discharges are obtained ; without which, inflammation and mortification will inevitably ensue. Glysters must consequently follow each other, without much intermission, till the point is carried ; to promote which, let small quantities of warm thin gruel be frequently offered, with one ounce of nitre in each ; warm mashes may also be given, if the horse should be inclined or enabled to receive them.

Immediate ease generally succeeds the necessary evacuations, the subject then only labouring under the lassitude that is so constantly the concomitant of extreme pain. All obstructions therefore being removed, and plentiful discharges obtained, contribute the support that
Nature

Nature will so evidently stand in need of, by preparing a comfortable warm mash of oats and bran equal parts; into which stir of aniseed, liquorice, and elecampane powders, each one ounce. In two or three hours after this mash is consumed give the following cordial *stomachic ball*, or drink, as may be most applicable to the intent or opinion of the operator or superintendant; washing down either with two or three quarts of very thin gruel, if the horse is inclined to take it;

Take mithridate and aniseed (in powder) of each half an ounce;

Saffron and London philonium each two drachms;

Oil of aniseed one drachm; Syrup (if necessary) to make the ball.

THE CORDIAL CARMINATIVE DRINK.

TAKE anise, coriander, and sweet fennel seeds, of each one ounce; carraway seed and ginger each half an ounce. Let them all be reduced to a gross powder, and boiled in a pint and half of gruel till reduced to a pint; then strain, pressing the ingredients, and let it be given of a proper warmth.

This

This will prove, upon most occasions, all the medical assistance the subject will require ; but after recovery his state and condition should be attended to ; no strong exercise or cold water can be proper for the first two or three days ; his feeds should likewise be regulated by appetite or inclination ; rather feeding often, and in small quantities, than to hazard a relaxation of the tone of the stomach, and a debilitation of the digestive powers, by large feeds at distant periods. If there are any indications of weakness, languor, inactivity, loss of appetite, heaviness and aversion to motion, or slight symptoms of pain, proceed to a course of the *cordial balls*, p. 176, giving one every morning, or every night and morning, should any of the above recited circumstances render it necessary. Previous to the final dismissal of this article, it cannot be inapplicable to enforce an exertion of the attention absolutely requisite in the management of horses, where cases of imminent danger (as in the present instance) may almost instantly arise from what at first may appear trifling and superficial.

Invariable resolutions should therefore be formed and adhered to, strictly avoiding whatever

ever may constitute the foundation of either trouble or danger. A horse should never be suffered to stand long in a wet and dirty condition, after chase or journey; to drink cold water when hot, or spring water from well or pump when pond or river can be obtained: his feeds should be likewise regularly dispensed, with proper respect to equation in time and proportion in quantity. The quality as well as quantity of both hay and corn must ever be held in constant remembrance; these being jointly and individually necessary to a permanent establishment of health, strength, and condition. To possess all which in a high degree, and to be produced for strong and powerful exertions in the field or on the road, his regular consumption should be two bushels of oats and two trusses of hay per week.

The state of the body respecting evacuations should not be neglected; regularity in these will be equally necessary with punctuality in food: the state of a horse's body may be most accurately ascertained by the appearance of his dung; if it is ejected of a fine bright colour (inclining to that of a new guinea), moderate in consistence, regular and adhesive in form,

form, coming away without great efforts and an extension of the fundament, approaching to pain, the body may then be considered in a proper and healthy state; but when the dung comes away with seeming labour, is remarkably hard in substance, very dark in colour upon falling, and strong or fœtid in smell, it may be fairly concluded the contents of the intestines are indurated, and nearly approaching a state of disease. When they are observed to be in this condition a gentle promotion of evacuations, or course of purgatives, may be premised, as very salutary preventatives to danger, expence, and trouble.

SCOURING, or LOOSENESS.

An aphorism of the justly celebrated *Boerhaave*, that “Nature never purges herself but “when she wants purging,” is so firmly fixed upon the basis of truth, that it has been very seldom subject to exception. But there are, in fact, rules so few (either physical or moral) that will not admit of some, it can create no surprise that the maxims of so great a man should

should be entitled to their trifling proportion. To elucidate a text from authority so truly respectable, and bring the matter into fair discussion for every comprehension, it will be unavoidably necessary to enlarge a little upon the subject we wish clearly to explain.

The fact is, when a quantity of gross food and collected impurities are accumulated and pent up within the confined limits of the intestinal canal, whether obstructed in the first or last passages, the inconvenience (though different in symptoms) may be ultimately the same in effect. For the aliment, by the obstruction in its natural progress, through the stomach or intestines, and preternatural retention there, acquires a degree of acrimonious malignity, that, at a certain period, (depending upon the habit and constitution) stimulates and begins to act upon the internal coat of the intestines, till by the stimulus of one, and the irritability of the other, a solution of the excrements ensue; and Nature is enabled to relieve herself, by throwing off that load which the attention of the master, and the interposition of art, would sometimes do well to remove. And this is the more necessary to be retained in memory, when
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it is recollected that where Nature fails in, or is inadequate to, the production and completion of this effort, in her own defence, she becomes gradually overpowered; the intestines are enormously loaded, and the over-repletion at length inevitably constitutes the Gripes, or Inflammatory Cholic, on which we last treated. But where Nature is fortunately adequate to her own work, and the accumulation is spontaneously carried off, *Boerhaave's* maxim is strictly verified; and it becomes palpably clear to every observer Nature does not purge herself till she wants purging.

This kind of Lax, or Looseness, is most readily distinguished from such as arise from other causes; the horse is previously dull, heavy, and inactive, seemingly oppressed and visibly overloaded, though without any appearance of extreme pain, but subject to a general disquietude; the dung first comes away with a degree of solidity; the evacuations then become more frequent, and at last loose; the discharges are at length rapid in succession, large in quantity, dark in colour, foetid in smell; bearing the appearance of impregnation with grease, as if with some foul oily substance in the intestines,

similar to the last discharge after the injection of a glyster. Nature, in the present instance, generally performs her own work with so much ease, that the least appearance of pain is hardly perceptible. In preference to the custom of waiting day after day for its termination, thereby giving it an opportunity, by its acrimonious quality, (which may irritate and affect more or less, according to the circumstances and the state of the subject acted upon) to debilitate the frame, it will be most prudent to give the following *laxative drink*, and assist Nature in carrying off what it would be highly improper to restrain:

Take fenna and cream of tartar each two ounces;
Epsom salts three ounces;

Ginger bruised half an ounce.—Boil in a pint of thin gruel for ten minutes; then strain and let it be given a little warm, and the gentle operation encouraged by frequent small quantities of gruel water.

On the contrary should this plan be rejected as unnecessary, and the looseness or scouring continue for any length of time, so as not only to expel the accumulated contents, but, by its
sharp

sharp and acrid quality, to stimulate the intestines and cause an expulsion of the mucus, (with which they are internally guarded) with ineffectual strainings and painful sensations, warm cordial restringents will be highly necessary, and may be administered in the following forms :

A CORDIAL RESTRINGENT BALL.

TAKE diascordium six drachms, gum arabic, prepared chalk, and armenian bole, each half an ounce ; ginger in powder one drachm ; oil of aniseed forty drops. Syrup, a small quantity, to complete the ball.

This may be repeated in six, eight, or twelve hours, as the severity of the case may require; the *restringent mash* (p. 29) may be occasionally brought into use. If solid food is refused, a gruel should be given for drink, made so thick as to be but barely liquid: if the expected relief is not soon obtained, and the subject is affected with spasms or twitchings in the intestines, add to the above ball two drachms of liquid laudanum, or ten grains of opium. If the horse is inclined to drink frequently, (as in all probability he will be) give one ounce of

gum arabic dissolved in a small quantity of water, and added to his gruel once in every five or six hours.

Where a ball is found inconvenient, or a drink preferred, let the following be prepared:

Take calcined (commonly called burnt) hartshorn three ounces;

Gum arabic one ounce;

Cinnamon half an ounce;

Ginger two drachms. Boil in a quart of water till it will produce a pint clear of the ingredients; then strain and add tincture of Japan earth one ounce and a half; liquid laudanum two drachms.

The above ball and drink are powerfully restraining, and with the cordial aromatic assistants, are admirably calculated to restore the tone of the intestines, and reduce their irritability. No larger field for relief need be explored; increase or diminish any of the different ingredients, as circumstances may require or judgment direct; and bring the doses of either nearer to each other, if appearances of danger justify the necessity.

Should

Should the predominant symptoms refuse submission to a repetition of the medicines here prescribed, prepare the following *anodyne glyster*, and repeat it once in eight or twelve hours till success attends the joint administration:

THE ANODYNE GLYSTER.

TAKE linseed two ounces; gum arabic one ounce. Boil in two quarts of gruel for some time; then strain and add of diascordium one ounce and a half; liquid laudanum half an ounce, and cold drawn linseed oil four ounces. Let it be thrown into the body with a proper bag and pipe, using gentle pressure.

So soon as the intestinal acrimony is obtunded by these means, and the excrements resume their original form, let the return of natural strength be solicited by every care and attention; give occasionally warm comfortable mashes, as most applicable to the state of appetite, and let no water entirely cold be drank for some days; introduce your dry feeds by degrees, and let half a dozen of the *cordial balls*, (p. 176), be brought into use; giving one every morning or evening to prevent flatulence,

tulence, and act as a warm restorative stimulant to the stomach and intestines.

Having so much enlarged upon this distinct kind of Lax, or Scouring, proceeding from repletion, it becomes necessary to animadvert upon the same disorder, when originating in a different cause. A severe relaxation, or looseness, then is known frequently to arise from a depraved state of the stomach, and a debility or weakness of the powers necessary to the purposes of digestion. The loss of appetite is occasioned by a relaxation of the elasticity or natural tone of the stomach; the blood is impoverished by a deficiency in its nutritious support of chyle through the lacteals; and the bile becomes equally defective, in being deprived of its due proportion of stimulus, consequently inadequate to the task it is destined to perform,

The chain of operation being thus obstructed, the whole system is in a great measure deranged, and the half digested aliment, soon engenders fermentation by its acidity; and, in an effort of Nature, prepares itself for approaching expulsion. The intestines, from the crude indigested aliment, and inert state of the bile, soon become relaxed,

relaxed, and their contents run off almost spontaneously, the horse seeming little prepared for or concerned in the event. The discharges continuing, become in a few days almost incessant, and constitute frequent irritations, and severe strainings to dung, with no other effect than an ichorous scalding liquid, or trifling evacuations of slimy mucus, from the internal coat (or lining) of the intestines.

In this particular case there requires a general relief to the universal debility of the intestinal track; the first step to which must be to sheath the acrimony, and reduce irritability in both the first and last passages; then gradually restore the powers of digestion, and invigorate the whole system by a course of stomachic restoratives.

THE ANODYNE RESTRINGENT BALL.

TAKE of India rhubarb, and compound powder of gum dragon, each half an ounce; columbo root in powder two drachms; ginger in powder one drachm; opium fifteen grains; conserve of orange peel six drachms; syrup of dialcordium sufficient to form a ball.

This to be repeated in twelve, eighteen, or twenty-four hours, as exigencies may require : for a substitute the following drink will prove equally applicable and efficacious.

THE ANODYNE DRINK.

TAKE linseed, burnt hartshorn, and gum arabic, of each one ounce ; boil in a pint and half of water to a pint; then strain and add tincture of cinnamon two ounces ; liquid laudanum two drachms.

Let this be given every morning for three in succession; the *restringent mash* (p. 29) may be occasionally offered, or, in refusal of that and dry corn, give a warm mash at proper periods, compounded of bran and ground oatmeal equal parts; if the stimulus and irritation continue, without any perceptible remission or submission of symptoms, let the following *glyster* be given once in every twenty-four hours.

THE ANODYNE STARCH GLYSTER.

TAKE boiled starch, of moderate consistence, three pints; gum arabic in powder two ounces; liquid laudanum half an ounce ; cold drawn linseed oil four ounces.

So

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So soon as the purging (or rather irritation and straining) is subdued, the appetite will consequently increase, and become in some measure restored; attend to that circumstance, and promote it by every possible means, assisting for three or six mornings with one of the following *restorative stomachic balls*.

THE RESTORATIVE BALL.

TAKE Venice treacle half an ounce; Peruvian bark six drachms; columbo root and camomile flowers, in powder, of each two drachms; oil of carraways five-and-twenty drops; honey sufficient to make the ball.

If the horse should be very much reduced in flesh, continue weak in body and appetite, forming the appearance of general debilitation, let the frame be universally assisted, and the cure completed by a dozen of the balls prescribed (p. 176); giving one every morning either in the state there directed or dissolved in a sufficient portion of gruel.

MOLTEN

MOLTEN GREASE

Is a disorder produced in general by too great, sudden, or powerful exertions, when a horse is not in *proper condition*; as strong and severe hunting, long and speedy journies, or hard driving in carriages, when first taken from grass loaded with impurities; just out of a dealer's possession, full of light flatulent food; or when too full of flesh for violent exercise. In such cases, from the internal heat, increased circulation, and temporary inflammation, the fat seated upon the membranes in various parts of the body, undergoes rarefaction and rapid solution, making distinct efforts for discharge by the different emunctories. The proportion nearest the vessels becomes absorbed by the blood (retarding circulation), thereby producing some degree of fever; another part makes its appearance with the excrements; a third portion fixes upon the lungs, and obstructs respiration; to these a laxation of the intestinal contents succeed; and, lastly, a looseness, or scouring, of which we last treated; so that in the present instances we plainly perceive the possibility

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bility of almost a complication of disorders, originating in a single cause, and the foundation of THAT CAUSE *indiscretion*.

A little reflection upon the incontrovertible truth of this observation will surely point out to every *humane* master, and *faithful* servant, the great danger of *over riding*, *driving*, or *fatiguing*, any horse whatever beyond the line of prudence and consistency, when not in high condition for the service he may be engaged in, whether turf, field, or road. Let it be constantly held in remembrance, more horses are ruined and destroyed by cruelty and neglect than by chance or accident. The subject we now treat on proves (more than any other) the absolute necessity of insuring CONDITION previous to a course of constant business; this must be obtained by a proper removal of those *impurities* or *viscidities* that lay the foundation of what the lineal descendants from *Vulcan* have, time out of mind, denominated *humours*,

That process, when first taken up from grass, or too full of flesh, is particularly explained

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plained under the heads of *feeding*, *bleeding*, and *purging*, in the early part of this work; including instructions that cannot be too much respected or persevered in, by those who wish to produce their horses at all times, in such style (for services of difficulty or danger) as has long been the source of equestrian emulation in the sporting world, from the lucky possessor of a numerous stud to the more humble dependant whom fortune persuades to be *compulsively* content with one.

The symptoms are in different subjects more or less violent, according to the state and condition at the time of attack; varying in all, either in a greater or lesser degree, in proportion to the parts most affected by the sudden revulsion and original cause. Wherever the solution has proved most partial, the effect will become most predominant; as for instance, upon the bowels, lungs, or circulation of the blood by absorption; in the first great pain attends the laxation or looseness; in the second great difficulty of breathing from the expansion of the lungs, may produce symptoms of inflammation there, as explained in p. 181. And when the mass of blood is generally

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nerally affected, and preternaturally loaded, fever must consequently ensue. These symptoms, as before observed, all vary in different subjects; but one is *pathognomonic* or *invariable* in all, which is the general incorporation of a greasy substance with the excrements, nearly similar to the separated particles of congealed oil in frosty weather: previous to the entire solution of the intestinal contents, and so long as the dung retains its usual form, the greasy hue appears only upon the surface, but as it advances in disease it becomes more intimately united.

So soon as ever the indications are perceived, proper methods should be instantly taken to relieve Nature from the threatened oppression, by such evacuations as predominant symptoms direct; at any rate let plentiful bleeding be the first step to reduce present, or prevent approaching, inflammation. If fever has not come on too rapidly, give, so soon as circumstances will permit, the mild *laxative drink* prescribed under the head of *inflammatory cholera*, p. 295: but, should the horse be strong and powerful, (the disease being in its infancy), give without delay the *purging drink*, p. 25, repeating

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repeating it in three or four days, if present appearances justify the propriety of the practice.

If the subject is greatly depressed with palpable fever, disquietude, loss of appetite, and internal painful sensations, glysters must be substituted; but as these need not be composed of variety, make use of the *glyster*, p. 202, which may be most easily prepared. To attenuate the blood, relieve the lungs, and take off the heterogeneous load from the circulation, as well as to mitigate all symptoms of fever (if such there are) adopt the mode of treatment particularly described, p. 208, taking in the assistance of the *pectoral decoction*, p. 183, if the lungs are very much oppressed, and symptoms of approaching inflammation there at all apprehended. The appetite must be attended to and solicited in every stage of the disease, by comfortable mashes, and the trifling minutiae so often repeated in the preceding part of the work.

So soon as alarming or predominant symptoms subside, proceed to a course of the mild *purging balls* (p. 185) going regularly through three doses, at such periods as are best adapted to the strength of the horse. In a few days,
after

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after working off the last dose, begin upon the following warm *diuretics*, (well guarded with aromatics) giving one every morning till the whole are taken :

THE CORDIAL DIURETIC BALLS.

TAKE Castile or pure white soap ten ounces;
Nitre and rosin each six ounces;
Aniseed in powder four ounces;
Camphor and ginger in powder, each one ounce;
Oil of juniper six drachms—Honey sufficient to form the mass; which divide into balls of two ounces each.

The above medicines and treatment are singularly adapted to every purpose in the cure of this disease; the *purging balls* before mentioned will prove much more adequate to this case than any that can be selected. The work begun by the *alterative purges* will be completed by the gradual effects of the *diuretics*; and with proper attention to the rules laid down in the first pages of this work, the horse may be soon produced in good state and condition.

CLASS X.

STRANGURY, AND OTHER DISORDERS OF
THE PARTS NECESSARY TO THE SECRE-
TION AND EVACUATION OF URINE.

S T R A N G U R Y.

THE parts that by some defect or injury constitute the cause of these complaints are so nicely constructed and so remotely situated from every possible means of inspection, that a great degree of judgment and delicate discrimination must be exerted, before a distinction can be made, or a just and decisive opinion obtained. The Strangury is an obstruction or temporary suppression of urine, and may arise from different causes; for, as before observed, the variety of
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of parts appropriated to the secretion and excretion are so numerous as to render the exact cause of disease a matter of ambiguity and uncertainty, with even those who *ought* to be the best enabled to form a decisive opinion (or rather a *certain* conjecture) from their course of extensive practice. The STRANGURY is sometimes a concomitant to the inflammatory cholic, and is then the effect of pressure from the indurated fæces or hardened dung retained in the rectum, or straight gut. When it arises not from this cause, it may proceed from inflammation in the kidneys, ulcerations there, spasms upon any particular part, or inflammation of the neck, or the bladder itself. When it is the consequence of cholic, and proceeds only from that original cause, it may be considered merely symptomatic, and will be entirely subdued with the first complaint, to which the saline medicines and stimulus of glysters there prescribed will very much contribute.

The signs of this suppression are too palpable to be mistaken; the subject is (after a long retention of urine) in an almost perpetual position to stale without effect, indicating by

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action and attitude the expectation of an unusual discharge; when, after frequent straining, the effort terminates in a groan of seeming disappointment. The horse in general is not in a great degree of acute pain, appears full in the flank, somewhat dejected, and, to a minute observer, seems not only conscious of his inability, but to supplicate assistance and relief. The ancient practice of inflaming the parts by an immediate use of violent stimulants, as cantharides, turpentine, and large quantities of camphire, is with the strictest justice exploded; having been experimentally found, upon most occasions, to increase, by their powerful stimulus and irritation, what they were intended to remove; by such ill advised and mistaken application of medicine, frequent inflammation has been produced and much mischief ensued.

The most rational and certain means of obtaining speedy relief will be to lessen the stricture upon the parts, by a moderate loss of blood; then reduce inflammation by emollient internals, promoting the secretion and evacuation of urine by very gentle stimulants and mild diuretics. This systematic method
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of obtaining a cure will not be so satisfactory to many of the rustic *learned* practitioners, who, closely adhering to old customs, old rules, and old books, would rather attempt to force the very blood unsecreted through the urinary passages, by a course of *Spanish flies*, or *oil of turpentine*, than adopt any method, however improved, in the formation of which their *extensive* abilities have not been consulted.

By this abominable and infamous practice the lives of many valuable horses have been taken away, the proprietor attributing to disease what nine times out of ten is the effect of ignorance. From an observation so just, or in fact, a reflection so alarming, arise the palpable necessity of this work, and the probable utility of its publication, to the very great number of gentlemen and sportsmen who, residing in remote spots, or distant parts of the kingdom, cannot have constant recourse to Farriers of judgment, extensive practice, and nice discrimination. To prevent therefore the frequent dreadful effects of confidence and ignorance on one hand, or an injudicious use of powerful and dangerous medicines on the other, every man will do well to interpose his authority,

and be well and clearly informed of the cause and intended method of cure, previous to the administration of a single medicine for any complaint whatever.

On the contrary, in the more populous and enlightened parts of the kingdom Farriers are known, whose abilities and practice rank them high in estimation; but as these are certainly not the growth of every soil, or produce of every parish, most owners of horses constantly in their possession, will not find either their time or attention entirely wasted, by endeavouring *occasionally* to form a tolerable acquaintance with the subject matter of the work before us. In a convenient or proper time, after bleeding, throw up the following emollient glyster:

Take of thin gruel three pints;

Nitre two ounces;

Gum arabic one ounce and an half;

Olive oil four ounces.

Let it be injected moderately warm, and retained in the body as long as possible.

So soon after this glyster as the horse is inclined by appetite to receive it, give a mash of two parts malt and one bran, they having been scalded together and stirred till of a moderate warmth; after this, if the subject has not staled in consequence of bleeding, glyster, and mash, have the following balls expeditiously prepared to forward the evacuation:

Take Castile soap ten drachms;

Sal prunella one ounce;

Camphire two drachms;

Aniseed powder six drachms;

Oil of juniper one drachm and a half;

Syrup of marshmallows sufficient to make the mash, which divide into two equal parts, giving one in six hours after the other, if the former is not successful.

These are very safe, mild, and efficacious, in general producing the desired effect without any uneasy sensations. Where a drink is preferred, as coming into a more applicable mode of administration, the following will prove equally serviceable:

Take juniper berries bruised two ounces; boil in a pint and a half of water for some time, then strain (to produce by squeezing the berries three quarters of a pint); to this add of nitre and gum arabic in powder each an ounce.

This drink, or the above ball, to be repeated at distinct periods of four hours each (if a repetition of the first at the end of six hours does not effect the desired purpose) till relief is obtained by plentiful evacuations.

Thus much by way of instruction where *strangury* is occasioned by spasm, or inflammation of the bladder or neck; but, as it may also proceed from an inflammation or ulceration of the kidneys, and a paralytic affection or palsy of the same parts; in either of which symptoms are frequently doubtful, and seldom certain; circumstances may consequently vary in different subjects, so as to render the true seat of disease a matter of conjecture only.

The only symptoms to which some certainty may be attributed are the following: if proceeding from spasm on either part, there may be frequent periodical relaxations that will permit

permit the urine to flow in small quantities for a very short time, when it may as suddenly stop; in this case the urine will be of its usual colour, or at times rather deeper, as if not perfectly complete in its secretion from the blood. In such case the treatment is exactly as already pointed out; but with the additional directions to repeat the glyster and bleeding occasionally, till the point is carried. The gentle *diuretic* medicines must be likewise continued at less distant periods; that is, their distinct doses must be brought an hour nearer to each other, till the purpose is effected; this method being found greatly preferable to the "kill or cure" practice, frequently producing inflammation, convulsions, and all their dreadful consequences.

But where the cause originates in a palsy of, or ulceration upon, any parts necessary to the offices of evacuation, no great expectation of cure can be indulged; but more particularly in the former, with which approaches certain death. When the kidneys become totally inadequate to their general purpose, a suppression and general stagnation consequently ensue, the loss of the animal becoming inevitable; and

although relief is sometimes most expeditiously obtained, in an inflammation of the parts, by a gentle method above directed, yet in an ulceration much is not left to hope. In this case there is visible pain and disquietude, the evacuation is not totally suppressed, being only at times temporarily obstructed; it frequently alters its appearance, being sometimes thick, depositing a turbid sediment, as if impregnated with membranous matter; at other times tinged with blood, the evident effect of a corroded solution of the diseased part. In this instance the following balls or drink only can be relied on, for any expectation of permanent relief, or probable mitigation:

Take of myrrh one ounce, Castile soap and Locatelli's balsam each three ounces; nitre and aniseed (in powder) each two ounces; balsam of Peru six drachms—Mix together with syrup of marshmallows, and divide into six balls, giving one every morning.

The diet should be both nutritive and balsamic, consisting of warm mashes impregnated with honey or malt; both or either of which will greatly contribute to the general purpose.

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If symptoms are mitigated, and relief obtained, by these means, surely farther instructions must be unnecessary to recommend a perseverance till the cure is completed; to which rest, gentle exercise, and stable care, will prove very useful aids. When an obstruction, or partial suppression of urine, arises from spasm, convulsion, or stricture, upon any of the parts necessary to be concerned in secretion or evacuation, they can only be allayed or removed by time and opiates, to relax the seat of disease, and reduce the irritability. The following *ball* will be applicable to that intention, repeating it at such times as the circumstances of the case may render necessary and unavoidable:

Take of Castile soap half an ounce; nitre, rosin, and compound powder of gum tragacanth; each two drachms; opium (in powder) ten grains; oil of juniper thirty drops.—Mix.

The following *drink* may be substituted, if a liquid is required, as it will prove equally efficacious:

Take

Take thin gruel three quarters of a pint; gum arabic, and nitre (in powder) each one ounce; liquid laudanum three drachms.—Mix.

This (as the ball above) may be occasionally repeated.

Horses are likewise liable to, and often sustain, injuries upon the parts we now treat of, by being overloaded with solid heavy substances upon the loins, strains in drawing great weights, and many other incidental circumstances, to which they are constantly subject in their different employments. The defects arising from such causes originate in a relaxation or rupture of some one or more of that infinity of membranous fibres that, in such case, constitute the seat of disease. These injuries display themselves by an evident wining and local debility, perceptible upon the least motion to the most common observer; they are also attended with great variations in the evacuation of urine, either by temporary suppression or partial obstruction, according to the original seat of pain and it's effect upon the neighbouring parts. In these disorders the urine is seldom copious, its discharge frequent, but in small quantities; generally of a very

very high colour, and in many cases tinged with blood.

Arising from which ever of the beforementioned causes, a revulsion may be made by drawing blood from the neck; not more to prevent stagnation and consequent inflammation, (if from a bruise) than to constrict the mouths of the finer vessels, if lacerated or ruptured.

The following balsamic *restoratives*, blended with gentle *diuretics*, may be then proceeded upon, with the assistance of stimulative corroborants; as an external application, if the muscular parts are suspected to have suffered some degree of relaxation by any of the means before described, an embrocation follows:

Take Locatelli's balsam ten drachms: myrrh (in powder) three drachms; balsam of Tolu a drachm and a half; oil of juniper a drachm; liquorice powder to make a ball.

This to be given every other morning for a fortnight or three weeks, assisted with an ounce of gum arabic, dissolved and given in the water a little warm, and well impregnated with

with gruel, twice every day. If the case is so severe as to require (by its visible debility) external aid, let a portion of the following *embrocation* be gently and patiently bathed upon the part affected twice or thrice every day.

Take opodeldoc and camphorated spirits, of each three ounces; oil of origanum two drachms; extract of saturn one ounce: mix the extract with the spirits, then add the opodeldoc; and, lastly, the origanum, shaking well together every time of using.

The medicines in this class are particularly efficacious, and will (by bringing the doses nearer to each other in respect to time, as occasion or exigencies may require) be found greatly preferable to the dangerous system of powerful stimulants, so forcibly recommended in former practice, when the administration of medicine was destitute of the numerous advantages resulting from the indefatigable investigations of modern improvement.

CLASS

CLASS XI.

DISORDERS OF THE EYES.

THERE is no one part of this tract more entitled to serious investigation than the subject now before us; for as no blemish or defect can take so much from the original value of a horse as the loss of his eyes, so it unfortunately happens there are few cases less understood or more improperly treated. The rays of information can be but trifling to the general reader, from a dull anatomical description of the *globe, tunica, cornea*; the *aqueous, chrystalline*, and *vitreous humours*; the distinct anterior or posterior *chambers*; the action of the *muscles*, or the *optic nerve*. The elaborate study of so complicate and delicate a structure, (in the formation of which such an infinity of parts

parts and technical terms are included) can afford but very slender intelligence to the literary inquirer; as such a wonderful variety of minute distinctions cannot be comprehended by description, a just and accurate discrimination of parts being only to be acquired by attentive and repeated dissections.

We shall therefore, for the advantage of general comprehension, consider the eye in its external appearance only, with the diseases and injuries to which it is liable, reverting occasionally to the great delicacy of its structure, and the exquisite sensibility of the parts that constitute the whole. This superficial description, taken into consideration, becomes divested of technical jargon, and distinctly comprehended by every individual in possession of the blessing of sight; upon which basis may be formed a very fair idea, blending an occasional reference to their own sensations; with such explanations as will be introduced to make the different degrees of disease sufficiently understood.

Previous to every additional observation, it becomes indispensably necessary to introduce
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some few remarks upon the cruelty and inconsistency of ancient practice; submitting such conclusions and inferences as will naturally arise to those readers who recur to this work for information, amusement, or to sink a tedious hour in the serious task of criticism. It has been before mentioned how exquisitely sensible this organ is of irritation; and it must be admitted, no argument whatever can undergo a more candid discussion than in an application to our own feelings, inconveniences, and disquietudes. To the sensations therefore of every individual I submit the reflection, and venture to believe there are none who may honour me with a perusal of these pages but will, by a momentary retrospection, communicate to memory the recollection of some acute pain, or excruciating anguish, he must, in all probability, have experienced from either the obtrusion of an almost impalpable particle of dust, or the attack of an invisible insect.

Revolving such circumstance for a few moments in remembrance, I claim his attention to the following corroboration of that infamous practice I have, in the course of this work, so repeatedly, and (I flatter myself) justly, condemned.

condemned. For instance, GIBSON directs an infusion of unslacked lime powerfully impregnated with sal armoniac; and tells you at the same time "it is an excellent wash for all old "obstinate ulcers." Let any patient reader draw an imaginary parallel between the almost inexpressible irritability of this delicate structure and the callous surface of an "obstinate ulcer," he will then, no doubt, form a proper judgment to decide upon the consistency of the practice. With a wonderful variety of alternatives, prescribed in all possible forms, we are directed by BARTLET "to "take off a film, by blowing into the eye "equal parts of white vitriol and sugar candy "finely powdered." And BRACKEN most judiciously recommends "glass finely powdered, mixed up with honey and a little fresh "butter."

A number of similar instances might be introduced from different authors to justify the observations already made upon a practice so strange in its original adoption, and so infamous in its effects: I shall however draw the attention only to a few remarks, first upon the prescription of GIBSON, whose composition must

must possess incredible virtue, to prove equally applicable to an organ of such exquisite sensibility, and the foul surface of an inveterate ulcer. BARTLET's wonderful nostrum of *white vitriol* and *sugar candy* is also most singularly entitled to *admiration*; for the corrosive quality of it's ingredients, and the mode of application taken into the consideration, will render it unnecessary for me to obtrude a single thought of my own upon the occasion. But the *infallible specific* of BRACKEN cannot be suffered to pass without *proper respect*, as it must afford matter of speculation to the curious, to inquire by what means an established composition for even the destruction of rats, shall be so *magically* divested of its pernicious effects, as to be admitted a salutary application to that part of the frame endowed with the greatest portion of sensibility.

These remarks submitted to public consideration, we proceed to expatiate upon the different diseases of the eyes, whether as natural blemishes, hereditary defects, or proceeding from external injuries. Such list might be very much extended by enlarging distinctly upon the remote and separate disorders; as the

Z

gutta

gutta serena, *cataract*, *film*, &c.; but as relief is rarely obtained in these cases, a very minute and extensive description of the component parts that constitute the cause, can add but little, if any, to the general information.

The *gutta serena* is a partial or universal loss of sight, where no palpable defect or fault appears in the eye, except that the pupil is a little more enlarged or contracted. The appearances of this blemish are various, as well as the causes and effects, some of its subjects being totally blind, and others barely enabled to distinguish between light and darkness. The signs are a blackness of the pupil of the eye, its size being larger or less than usual, according to the cause, and its not contracting or dilating upon a sudden exposure to any degree of light. In order to the cure attend to the cause as the first step to an administration of medicine, from which, in truth, no great expectation can be formed either internally or externally; more particularly from the former, as the seat of disease is so very remote from the centre of medicinal action. If the defect should originate in a contraction of or compression upon the optic nerve, very little
can

can be done with an expectation of success; and much less if it arises from a palsy of that or any neighbouring part.

A *cataract*, like many other diseases, is attributed by different practitioners to different causes, though the greater part coincide in opinion that the defect is in the chrySTALLINE humour of the eye, which, becoming opaque, prevents the admission of those rays upon the retina that constitute vision. To enter at large into the professional definition of these distinct diseases, and most minutely into the probable or possible means of relief, would be to extend this subject beyond the limits or compass of the work itself. I shall therefore reconcile to myself the communication of a fact almost universally acknowledged—that little even in the human species is now expected from the famous operation of couching; an experiment that is, taking it “all in all,” productive of advantages so very trifling, the recommendation of it here can avail but little, particularly as the expences added to the hazard and uncertainty of cure could gain but few proselytes to the practice.

In all blemishes or defects, where a thickening of some one of the coats, membranes, or humours of the eye, has formed an appearance of *cataract* or *film*, it has been an established and most contemptible custom, to bestow a plentiful application of *corrosive* powders, unguents, and solutions, for the purposes of obliteration; without a single reflection upon the absurdity of endeavouring to destroy by corrosion, what is absolutely separated from the surface by a variety of membranous coverings, according to the distinct seat of disease; with which it is impossible to bring the intended remedy into contact, without first destroying the intervening or surrounding parts, by which the inner delicate structure is so numerously guarded. It may not be inapplicable to strengthen this remark, by reverting to the great difficulty of solving a stone in the human body, to effect which so many unsuccessful attempts have been made; the mere solution of the *calculus* out of the body, is a matter universally known to the Faculty; but the great and difficult object of cure, is to discover a *solvent* that will act upon the stone in the bladder of the patient, without injury to the parts in its passage or where it is contained.

This

This is a blessing too great, I fear, ever to be obtained by even the noblest exertions of human study and application. Seeing therefore the cause just treated on, in nearly a similar point of view, with the almost palpable impossibility of removing such obstacles, without increasing the malady, I am consequently prevented from introducing a chain of prescriptions that can positively only amuse or deceive, as the methods hereafter pointed out for the relief of different causes or external injuries may be in the above cases adopted as palliatives according to circumstances; but sorry I am to acknowledge, that, in such instances, Nature will, in all probability, prove the least dangerous and expensive FARRIER.

The cases that most frequently occur, requiring medical aid or topical application, are generally the effects of *cold, blows, bites*, or other external injuries. In those proceeding immediately from *cold*, you perceive a visible inflammation upon the globe of the eye, and internal surrounding parts, as the edges of the eye-lids, &c. The eye seems divested of its former transparency, bearing a thick cloudy appearance.

appearance upon its outer covering, and is constantly discharging an *acrid serum* or sharp water that in a short time almost excoriates the parts in its passage. The horse drops his ears, becomes dull and sluggish, is frequently shaking his head, as if to shake off the tears, becomes low and depressed, displaying, in every action, pain and disquietude.

Here a revulsion of the perspirable matter has by some obstruction (either partial or universal) been thrown upon these parts to the effects of which they become more liable from their extreme delicacy and consequent irritability. To remove which bleeding (in proper proportion) must precede every other consideration; to this succeeds a speedy adoption of, and perseverance in, the methods directed, p. 167, with occasional references to 206, and the following pages for instructions, should symptomatic fever attend. To cool the parts and allay the irritability occasioned by the scalding serum, prepare the following lotion:

Take

O F T H E E Y E S 343

TAKE fugar of lead one drachm ;
 White vitriol two scruples ;
 Spring water half a pint ;
 Brandy or camphorated spirits one ounce or two
 table spoonsful ;

Let the eyes and surrounding parts be gently washed with a sponge or tow, impregnated with the above solution, twice or thrice every day.

Should the inflammation not seem likely to subside, but continue fixed on the part threatening violence, have recourse to a dozen of *diuretic* balls, p. 75, using gentle work or moderate exercise.

The effects arising from blows or bites may be displayed by different appearances, according to the severity of the injury sustained. Should inflammation and swelling proceed from either cause, bleeding will be a preparatory step to an early reduction of both ; a repetition of which, at proper distances of time, may always be justified by a non-submission of symptoms. The following preparation from GOULARD'S Extract, for the purpose of external application, becomes immediately necessary, and is accurately proportioned for this particular occasion :

Z 4

Take

Take extract of saturn (commonly called Goulard's) three drachms;

River or pond water one pint;

Camphorated spirits one ounce;

Mix the extract with the spirits, then add the water, and let the parts affected be plentifully embrocated three or four times a day, according to the emergency.

If a large swelling, laceration, or wound attends, after washing with the above, apply a warm poultice of bread, milk, and a little of the lotion, softened with a small portion of lard or olive oil, bandaging on, and covering with a hood, to secure its position. In cases of less danger, and in remote situations, distant from towns, and the easy procuration of medicines, the following may be substituted, and plentifully used:

Take best white wine vinegar half a pint;

Spring water a quarter of a pint;

Best brandy a wine glass or half a gill.—Mix.

A wound upon any of the external parts, occasioned by an instrument or severe bite, must be treated as directed under that head. The above compositions are properly adapted
to

to every purpose for which they are prescribed, nor can more powerful or efficacious repellents or astringents be applied to those parts, unless by the rude hands and ruder heads of uncultivated adventurers and desperate practitioners.

The former elaborate and destructive compositions of corrosive powders, blended with greasy substances in the form of unguents, as well as the poisonous lotions, are long since exploded, as totally inadequate to the purposes for which they were so *learnedly* displayed; even that infallible of all infallibles, the great secret of Sir HANS SLOANE, is at length buried in oblivion, and has given place to more modern improvements. In all cases where the globe and pupil of the eye retain their transparency, subject only to surrounding inflammation, that not seeming inclined to submit, occasional bleedings, a course of diuretics, as before prescribed, or three doses of mild *physic*, may be adopted, assisting the whole with a frequent use of either *lotion*, as most applicable to reigning symptoms.

The Haws are a preternatural enlargement of the corners of the eyes, become horny, and, being

being overgrown, approaches the pupil, giving the eye the external appearance of bad formation. The instrumental extirpation of these substances has been a favourite practice of long standing, and, like all others, has had its alternate proportion of failure and success. After separation has been effected by the hand, needle, and instrument of the operative FARRIER, any simple styptic or astringent is generally applied, and it is then just an even bet, or chance, whether you succeed in the intentional effect of your operation; for, having seen it repeatedly productive of inflammation, and lastly total blindness, I cannot conscientiously recommend the practice; on the contrary, to establish my own want of taste, confess I would encounter the lesser evil of the two, and rather (for my own riding) prefer a horse with *large haws* to one *without eyes*. This opinion may appear singular to the *professors* of *farrery*, to whom I have so particularly addressed a variety of passages in the early part of this work, and indeed to whose approbation it cannot lay claim, being in direct contradiction to the *pecuniary* preponderation of their professional judgment and execution.

C L A S S XII.

MALLENDERS, SALLENDERS, LAMPAS, CURBS, QUITTORS, AND RING-BONES.

M A L L E N D E R S

ARE cracks, or oozings, situate directly upon the back part of the knee joint, occasioned, in general, more by neglect than any casual or constitutional defect in the subject. The matter they discharge is, in some, thin and acrimonious, in others it forms a glutinous accumulation in its oozing, and bears the appearance of small scabs or scurfy eschars upon the surface, constituting a want of flexibility or seeming lameness in the joint. The first step to cure, is to have the parts well washed with soap and warm water, (forming a substantial lather) repeating the operation night and morning till the eschars relax from their rigidity,

gidity, and separate of themselves. And this will be the more readily promoted by rubbing in a proper proportion of the following ointment, in an hour after the washing, when, by time and wiping, they are tolerably dry.

Take camphorated spermacæti ointment two ounces;

Cinnabar of antimony and oil of tartar per heliquium, each half an ounce;—Mix, and use plentifully twice a day.

So soon as the cracks are perfectly free from scabs or scurf, a cure may reasonably be expected by washing with equal parts of vinegar and tincture of myrrh, moistening the surface occasionally with the *unguent* before mentioned. But where, from long neglect, or an acrimony of the juices, they have acquired a degree of virulence, not submitting to the above treatment, let them be dressed twice a day with the strong *mercurial ointment*, previously washing them well with a compound of vinegar, water, and soap lees, equal parts. Should a perceptible foulness in the subject justify the measure, take away a proper quantity of blood, and give an ounce of *nitre* dissolved in water twice a day for a fortnight, or a short course of the *diuretic balls*,

S A L L E N D E R S. 349

balls, p. 75. Where humours are attendant upon other parts likewise, a gentle course of *mercurial physic*, succeeded by antimonial alteratives, may be preferred; selecting both from the variety of prescriptions under those heads, taking care to proportion your quantities to the strength of the subject.

S A L L E N D E R S

Are upon the inside of the hough, or hock, what the MALLENDERS are upon the back-side of the knee; they originate in the same cause, and are cured by the same means, rendering unnecessary and superfluous any farther observations under this head.

L A M P A S

Is an enlargement of the roof of the mouth, particularly in young horses; and sometimes becomes so prominent as to project below the teeth of the upper jaw, preventing the teeth of the lower from coming into contact for the purpose of mastication. The horse is by these means not only deprived of a great proportion

tion of the *nutriment* necessary to his support, but becomes *poor, weak, dejected*, and out of condition. Custom has established an useful and expeditious extirpation, by the actual *cautery* or RED HOT IRON, and though I am no advocate for such *fiery* remedies, where they can be avoided, yet this is a cure so speedily effected by an expert *operator*, and the horse's suffering is so very trifling, that when a comparison is drawn between the temporary inconvenience, and the immediate advantage, no hesitation can be made respecting the operation.

It is admitted, against the operation, that the LAMPAS appearing in young *horses*, the roof constantly continues to flatten and the teeth to rise, consequently time alone may and consequently would surmount the obstruction; but where they are very prominent, the poor animal must patiently wait many months for a good *meal*, and will soon prove, by his *emaciated* appearance, the applicable transposition of the ancient adage, that "while the *teeth* grow "the STEED starves."

When

QUITTOR. 351

When the operation is performed, wash the part twice or thrice with the following:

Take honey of roses and tincture of myrrh, each one ounce.—Mix.

QUITTOR.

A QUITTOR may originate in a blow, bruise, laceration, or what is called a *stub* between hair and hoof. An injury sustained, likely to constitute this blemish or defect, cannot be too soon submitted to the inspection of a FARRIER of extensive *practice*, whose conduct will be consequently regulated by a proper respect to his own reputation. I mean such application should be early made where the CASE is alarming; or, in more superficial concerns, when by circumstances or neglect it becomes the immediate business of the operative FARRIER.

As injuries of this kind open a large field for instructions, many of which must consequently depend upon the appearances of the parts when injured, I can impart such directions only as correspond with the defect in
its

its state of infancy :—So soon as the accident is discovered, (which it ought soon to be, in the general examination of a *horse's* feet, that should always take place upon his return from *chase* or *journey*) wash well with a sponge and warm water, to ensure a thorough cleansing; then apply a pledget of tow, moistened with friar's balsam, tincture of myrrh, or camphorated spirits, repeating it once in twenty-four hours, covering the exact spot with a portion of sheet tea lead, inclosed in a small piece of linen, bandaging firm. All *unctuous* or *greasy* applications should be avoided, and great care taken not to immerse the foot in dirt or water till the part is perfectly united, and the surface sufficiently hardened not to admit particles of sand, gravel, or any other extraneous matter. And this caution becomes the more necessary when it is remembered, that real QUITTORS have originated from this very want of attention more than in any other circumstance, many having been formed and confirmed in what, properly managed, would have been merely a superficial and temporary inconvenience. See p. 123.

C U R B S.

A CURB is too universally known to require a minute description; it is a considerable swelling below the hough, rather on the inside and back part of the hind leg, and seems to have been formed by an accumulation of extravasated fluids that in their stagnation have acquired a *callosity*. It is productive of perceptible pain in action, and soon establishes different degrees of lameness in different subjects. In its earliest state attempts may be made with some of the powerful repellents, p. 50 or 59; but, upon non-submission, after a fair trial, recourse must be had to one of the following blisters, care being taken to secure the application by bandage, the better to insure the probability of success.

Take mercurial ointment six drachms;
Cantharides and euphorbium (in powder) each two drachms;
Oil of origanum a drachm and a half;

A a

Corrosive

Corrosive mercury one drachm ;

Mix the ointment with the powders, and add the oil.

Or,

Take spirit of turpentine and olive oil each one ounce ;

Euphorbium and cantharides each two drachms ;

Oil of origanum three drachms.—Mix.

Where these applications are unattended with the desired success, the ceremony of firing by an expert and judicious operator, with the additional aid of long rest, are the only alternatives that can be adopted.

RINGBONES.

THE extirpation and cure of these come so immediately into the line of description and mode of treatment with the last article, as to render animadversion entirely unnecessary ; they constitute an inconvenience very rarely to be surmounted in private practice, consequently fall to the inspection and management of the OPERATIVE FARRIER.

Docking,

Docking, cropping, nicking, and shoeing, are so immediately the concerns of the *smith* and *farrier*, that they claim no part of our attention in this publication, being totally unconnected with the investigation of disease or method of cure. It has been the intention, through the course of this work, to render both the original cause of complaint, and necessary administration of medicine, as clear as the nature of each case would admit; such explanatory passages having been blended with the different parts, as must perfectly reconcile the whole to every comprehension. Enough has been said under the distinct heads of GREASE, HIDE-BOUND, SURFEIT, MANGE, and FARCY, to inculcate not only a just idea of the blood's circulation, its changes and defects; but to establish a clear and perfect conception of all those causes that constitute the foundation of diseases so long *sagaciously* distinguished by the denomination of "HUMOURS," in failure of a more scientific or satisfactory explanation.

Influenced originally in the plan and formation of this work by no other motive than the

general good; and after twenty years experience and observation, being more perfectly convinced of the growing necessity of such publication, is now submitted to *public* inspection, as a prelude to future improvement; with an anxious wish that it may prove an excitement to some more powerful agent, whose superior abilities may do the subject greater JUSTICE.

THE END.

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